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LITERATURE.

Doncaster, from the Roman Occupation to the Present Time. By J. Tomlinson. (Wyman.)

MR. TOMLINSON is already well known as an indefatigable enquirer into the antiquities of the country round Doncaster; and his works on the Level of Hatfield Chase, on the region lying between Doncaster and Sherwood Forest, and on the etymology of the place-names in that neighbourhood, have secured for him more than a local reputation for industry and scholarship. He now gives us a handsome volume of "secular items," showing the growth of his native town from its rude and obscure beginnings in Roman and Anglian times to the days of its present prosperity. Its Church-history is reserved for another volume, which is to deal with the mission of Paulinus and the building of the church at "Campodunum" the royal residence of Edwin the Fair, the history of the monastic houses, and the lives of various clergymen and preachers of eminence who have flourished in the town.

Doncaster appears to have been a post of some military importance during the Roman occupation of Britain. The station of "Danum," as it was originally called, protected the junction of main roads which converged at a ferry over an arm of the river Don. There has been some confusion as to the course of these roads and their identification with the great highways of mediæval times. Part of the road from Doncaster to York was claimed as belonging to the Foss-way, which extended between Bath and Lincoln; and Leland described part of the same road as "the very mayn crest" of Watling Street. The real facts seem to be as follows. From the cavalry-station at Doncaster a road ran to Gloucester and the mouth of the Severn, parallel to the line of the Foss-way, and about sixty miles to the northward. This road, which passed by Birmingham, and through Staffordshire, as is shown by various descriptions of parcels in ancient conveyances, was afterwards known as the "Rykneld Way" or "Rykneld Street." The great road from London to Lincoln, which passed across a ferry over the Humber to as far north as Newcastle, threw out a branch to Doncaster and York. This branch of the "Ermine Street," portions of which still exist under the name of the Roman Rig, is best known by De Foe's description. At Doncaster, he says, "we saw the first remains of the great Roman highway which, though we could not perceive before, were eminent and remarkable just at the entrance into the town." In another passage he says that his party rode some miles out of their way over Barnsdale in order to see the great Roman causeway, "which runs across this moor from Doncaster to Castleford." He described it as being perfect in many places. Where it was broken up, the courses appeared to be of different materials: "the bottom is clay or earth, upon that is chalk, then gravel, and upon the gravel is stone, and then gravel upon that." From York this road was continued as one of the three great meridional lines by which communications were kept up between the upper wall and the principal cities in the south of the province. Mr. Tomlinson gives an interesting account of the various Roman antiquities which have been found in the town and its neighbourhood. Some of his inferences, however, are hardly trustworthy; and the reader should be cautious in accepting such etymological fancies as that which finds in "Austerfield" a memento of a fight between Ostorius Scapula and the natives of Brigantia.

Passing to the time of the English settlement, we learn from Bede that the site of the Roman station was occupied, under the name of Campodunum, as a villa or estate belonging to the kings of Northumbria. In the reign of Edward the Confessor the place belonged to Earl Tostig. It appears to have been at that time a rural township consisting of two plough-lands held by small freeholders, who owed suit and service to the Soke of Hexthorpe. In Domesday Book it is entered among the possessions of Robert Earl of Moretain; and when the estates of his family were confiscated for rebellion by Henry I., the soke and its dependent township passed to the family of Fossard. The heiress of the Fossards married Robert de Turnham, "a mighty crusader"; and his daughter, becoming a ward of the crown, was sold in marriage, after the high-handed fashion of those days, to Peter de Maulay. Seven barons of the same name successively became lords of the "manor and soke of Doncaster," now separated from the lordship of Hexthorpe. Their feudal rights over the town were undoubted as a matter of law; but they had to sustain continual contests with the crown, the town being claimed as part of the king's ancient demesne. The townsmen, as often happened, profited largely by the contentions of the superiors. Richard I. by an important charter, which is still preserved among the corportion archives, granted the borough absolutely to the burgesses in consideration of a fee farm-rent; and the continued payment of the rent was proof that the crown had some rights over the borough, however clearly the De Maulays might prove their feudal title. King John acknowledged that Doncaster was their town, while treating it as his own; for we find him ordering the bailiffs of Peter de Maulay to inclose their lord's town of Doncaster "with hertstone and pale, according as the ditch that is made do require, and that ye make a light brecost or barbican upon the bridge to defend the town, if need shall be." Whether the fortifications, apart from the castle, extended to anything more than a ditch and palisade, we cannot now be sure. On this point, perhaps, Leland's authority may be be taken as sufficient.

"There appere no tokens," he says, "as far as I could lerne or see, that ever Doncaster was a waullied toun: yet there be three or four gates in it, whereof that on the west side is a praty Tower of Stone; but S. Marie Gate is the fairest."

The manorial lords seem to have had complete control over the trade of the borough. The profits and regulation of the annual three days' fair belonged to them, and they even succeeded in imposing a tax on the sale of all victuals by retail-dealers or "regraters." This appears by a charter of Peter de Maulay the fifth, whereby he released to the commonalty of Doncaster, both rich and poor, "the pernicious custom raised from the same town heretofore by my ancestors, which we were wont to receive from all manner of regratery." The complete emancipation of the borough was practically assured when it began to send members to Parliament, but it was a long time before its legal rights were conclusively recognised. At last, an important charter of Edward IV., after recounting that the liberties of the town, through defect of a declaration thereof, might be molested and incommoded, established the townsmen as free burgesses with the right to have a merchant-guild, to elect a mayor, to exercise legal jurisdiction in the borough, and to hold an annual three-days' fair. This charter, says Mr. Tomlinson, embodied the town's privileges, and defined the municipal administration. It was left for successive kings, especially Henry VII. and Charles II., to secure to the town its property and manorial estates. All the feudal rights over the town having become vested in Henry VII., that king granted the whole manor, town and lordship, with all the villages and hamlets belonging thereto, to the corporation to be held under a fixed rent, which is still paid to the family of the late Gen. Kinsey, whose ancestors purchased it from Charles II. The largeness of the words of gift in this grant was the occasion for a terrible litigation between the corporation and the owners of certain lands which were claimed as part of Doncaster Moor, the corporation succeeding in the end in making good their title to the greater part of the property.

The record of this litigation is now interesting only so far as it bears on the question of the antiquity of the Doncaster races. In the year 1598 we find Hugh Wyrrall, the rival claimant, setting up a stoop or stand on Doncaster Moor "att ye west end of ye horse-race," and the corporation sending a workman "to cutte down or digg up the saide stoope." The quarrel about the possession of the ground led soon afterwards to the entire suppression of the races. An entry in the corporation books for 1615 states that the race "hath brought and bred many cares and suits to the great damage and prejudice of the corporation, and quarrels and other inconveniences have by reason of this race bene stirred up"; and that for the prevention of murder and bloodshed it had been agreed that the meeting should be discontinued "and the stoops and stand shall be pulled up and employed to some better purpose." The public interest in the sport revived at Doncaster, as elsewhere, during the reign of Charles II.; but it was not until nearly a century had elapsed after the suppression in 1615 that the corporation gave a subscription "to encourage the horse-racing." The great increase in the prosperity of the Doncaster meeting dates from 1776, when a new course was laid out and the celebrated sweepstakes was instituted which now

takes its name from Gen. Anthony St. Leger. The present importance of the race week may be estimated from the fact that the corporation clears about £5,000 profit, after allowing for expenses of equal amount in the way of subscriptions and management.

Mr. Tomlinson adds a very complete and interesting account of the markets for which Doncaster has always been famous, of the antiquated soke-mills at which the townsmen were obliged to grind their corn, of the freemen's commons which, as he supposes, exist "by a mistake or omission in the Municipal Reform Act," and of the numerous public works and institutions which testify to the prosperity of the town. The book is handsomely illustrated; and its readers will probably all be anxious for the appearance of the volume of "clerical items" which is to complete the work. CHARLES ELTON.

Ballades and Rondeaus, Chants Royal, Sestinas, Villanelles, &c. Selected, with chapter on the various forms, by Gleeson White. (Walter Scott.)

THIS little volume, full of many poems, may be said to represent very fairly the effects of some experiments made about ten years ago by a few men who had already earned reputation as writers of verse. These have been years of experiment and new life in all arts great and little; and in poetry scarcely any kind has been left untried, from the loosest to the most organic—from the poetry in solution of Walt Whitman to these highly crystalised forms of old France. Feeling the beauty of the forms when thoroughly understood, as by old writers like Villon and Voiture, and moderns like Théodore de Banville and Boulmier, and attracted perhaps by the very difficulty, as well as by the novelty, of the attempt, they commenced to write English poems in the form of "ballades and rondeaus, chants royal, sestinas, villanelles, &c.," as the title of this book has it. That they had any more serious intention than to amuse themselves and others by an interesting literary experiment may be doubted; that they thought of supplying a grave deficiency in English literature or forming a new school of poetry may be safely denied; but whether they wished it or not they created at least a fashion, and the number of authors (over sixty) who contribute to this volume probably represents less than half the number of verse writers in England and America who have set their wits to work on these dainty devices.

The movement, though not yet exhausted, has gone far enough to prove that, unless it takes some new and unexpected turn, it will not get much farther. Notwithstanding that many very beautiful poems have been written in these forms—poems which could not have given quite the same kind of delight if written in any other form—there are few, if any, signs of their real naturalisation. These beautiful poems have been written by a few men, and it is only a few of these few men who have written more than two or three of them, only one who may be said to have proved himself a master in several of the forms. Moreover, it is doubtful whether these exceptionally skilful singers will give us many more. An occasional ballade we may still hope for, perhaps, from Mr. Andrew Lang, and Mr. Austin Dobson possibly may, to use his own words, "unlock his heart in a rondeau" now and again. Mr. John Payne may still find in these forms exercise for his inexhaustible faculty of versification, but Mr. Gosse is not likely to repeat his triumphs in sestina or chant royal. Mr. Henley, who in this volume for the first time appears as the acknowledged author of what Mr. Gleeson White rightly calls "the brilliant series of these poems" which appeared in the *London* during 1877-8, has long been silent, and there is no sign of any new writer who is likely to make up for these and other secessions from the quire.

It is scarcely necessary here to say much with regard to these initiators and their works. Such of the latter as appear in this volume are already well-known favourites. Mr. Dobson's ballades, rondeaus, villanelles, and triolets are models for imitation, correct in form, skilful in versification, and, moreover, poems. No one has entered so completely as he into the science of the different structures, and has seen so clearly the nature and description of theme specially suitable to the particular form. Apart from all the wit, the happy fancy, the charms of rhythm and cadence, and other characteristics of the writer, this sense of literary fitness is a special mark of his "French Forms." Mr. Lang has spoken of this class of poetry as "decorative," and there is a close analogy between the art of decoration and the art of "fixed forms." The "little blue mandarin" of Mr. Dobson's charming villanelle was no doubt part of a decoration which made the "Nankin Plate" a pretty thing without destroying its existence as a plate; and Mr. Dobson's villanelle is a pretty thing, but still a villanelle and nothing else. Of Mr. Lang's "ballades" it may be said that if not always so finely chiselled as Mr. Dobson's, they have a happy grace and flexibility, a spontaneous audacity, a freshness of flow as though straight from the source, which give them a charm peculiarly their own. Despite their strict observance of the rules, they frequently approach the freedom of improvisation. In his ballades, perhaps, more than in any others, we see the possibility that the ballade, with some slight modifications perhaps of rhyming difficulties, may become a favourite means of self-expression among English poets of the future. Yet it is Mr. Dobson, and not any other writer, who is the true begetter of this book.

As to which was the first to publish in England this form or that is not of much consequence. Mr. Andrew Lang was the first writer of the double ballade, not Mr. Henley, as stated in Mr. Gleeson White's preliminary chapter. Mr. Gosse is credited with the first villanelle, with the first sestina in the Italian unrhymed form, and also with the first chant royal; and no one has excelled him in either of these two latter very difficult forms. Mr. Bridges's two charming triolets were the first in English (since Mr. Patrick Carey's); and there are others who might put in claims for being first in the field with this and the other form, or some variation of it. But though the seed was sown by many Mr. Dobson has done more than anyone to spread the cultivation of these forms in England and America, and most of the poems in this book by new writers show that the seed has been taken from his flowers. Although Mr. Lang's inimitable wit and style in the use of the ballade form has had a crowd of followers, no imitation of him is closer to the original than Mr. Ernest Whitney's echo of Mr. Dobson's double ballade of prose and rhyme; and there are few writers whose rondeaus and triolets do not bear very clear traces of similar parentage. For these reasons the majority of the poems in this volume by American writers, while they testify to a widespread skill in versification, add little to the poetical interest of the book, although in an article of more critical detail it would be a pleasant duty to call attention to the ballades of Mr. Sherman and Mr. Brander Matthews, and to several of Mr. Clinton Scollard's pieces. Of English writers the most important of what at least to the majority of readers may be called "novelties" are Mr. Henley's *London* poems before mentioned. They show a true lyrical gift, a large range of feeling, and much happiness, force, and originality of language; but too many of them have been written in a hurry, and some of those which contain the most faultless and poetical of his stanzas are damaged by want of care in the execution of other stanzas. Nevertheless, one of the features of the volume is the exhibition of Mr. Henley's remarkable power in verse.

It is impossible here to quote from or to enter minutely into the merits of his work; but it may be noted that though he has used the forms for the most casual and trivial of purposes he is also one of those few who has employed them for the expression of the deeper emotions. There are few "forms" here which are more truly pathetic than his beautiful rondeau, "When you are old." The aptitude of these "conventional" forms for such serious feeling is a question which cannot be discussed here; but there are more than one example of it in Mr. Gleeson White's book—*e.g.*, Miss Mabel Robinson's triolets from "Fiammetta," especially the exquisite one beginning "Since I can never come again," and Mr. Samuel Waddington's fine chant royal of "The New Epiphany."

Nevertheless, although Mr. Swinburne has written some grand ballades, and though such well-known prose-writers as Mr. William Black and Mr. Grant Allen have been tempted into verse by the ballade form, there is not much promise in the future for the expansion of this French colony of forms.

The fact is that, to use a homely phrase, the game is well-nigh played out. It has been interesting, exciting, delightful while it lasted, and it will leave its mark on English literature for some time to come. It has been an excellent school for young students in the art of poetry. It has done something to raise the technical standard of verse, and it has enriched our literature with many beautiful things; but the thorough naturalisation of these forms, certainly of most of them, in their exact French shape is not to be expected. They need a lightness of hand and of thought, a lightness also of language it may be said, which is native to the land which produced them, and cannot be imported with the forms themselves; and a still more palpable obstacle to their habitual use by English poets is the paucity of rhymes in English. Mr.

Dobson has suggested that this difficulty may be partly overcome by allowing words composed of the same vowel sounds, preceded by the same consonant, to rhyme with one another, provided the sense is different; but he adds that no purist would use such rhymes, and it is doubtful whether this addition to English rhyme power would be easily accepted by others who are not purists, and whether, if accepted, it would prove adequate to the purpose. How serious an obstacle it is can be seen by anyone who examines the ballades, where the inexpert poet generally gets into difficulties in the third stanza; and even in the less exacting form of the rondeau he is often put to palpable shifts.

At the same time the experiment seems to have revealed a real want in English literature. It has recognised beyond doubt the value of fixed forms, their special beauty of music and shape, and their use in expressing, with a neatness and charm otherwise unattainable, slight thoughts, moods, fancies, compliments, and sentiments both grave and gay. Especially is there need for them in this hurried age, when many besides Dr. Garnett seek for some pretty ready shrine in which to fix the "rare and coloured thoughts" which come across their minds at odd moments. Perhaps this movement will end in the invention and adoption of some modification of the ballade and the rondeau better suited to English thoughts and English words than the French forms. Perhaps Mr. Swinburne's "roundel," of which some beautiful specimens are given in Mr. Gleeson White's volume, will strike root. The modern movement towards greater perfection in lyric form, and cultivation of the sense of lyric music, owes more to him than perhaps to any poet except Rossetti; and it would be only fit that he should succeed in naturalising the rondeau in an English form. But if he fails in this, it need be no reason for wonder, when we remember that even Shakespere failed to make his sonnet grow.

COSMO MONKHOUSE.

My Consulate in Samoa. By William B. Churchward. (Bentley.)

Of all the minor Pacific groups the Samoan, or Navigators, Islands are in many respects the most interesting. They occupy a somewhat central position on the oblique line running from New Zealand to Hawaii, which roughly marks the boundary between the watery domains of the large brown Polynesian race to the east and of the dark Papuans (Melanesians) to the west. The Samoans themselves are not only typical Polynesians, superior to most others both in physical beauty and mental endowment, but are on good grounds regarded by many ethnologists as the original stock of all the brown Polynesian islanders. Their dialect is the most archaic, at least in its phonetic system, as shown by the retention of organic *s* (*Samoa, Savaii, Saisai,* &c.), which elsewhere passes over to the aspirate or disappears (*Havaii, aiai*), except in the neighbouring Tokelau and in a few Tongan words.* The island of Savaii,* largest of the Samoan group, would seem to be the cradle of the race, or at least the point of dispersion after their arrival in the Pacific, where this word occurs in diverse senses and dialectal forms throughout the whole of the Polynesian domain. Thus, in Tahiti—Havaii=the universe, the world; in Rarotonga—Avaiki=the land under the wind; in New Zealand—Hawaiki=the land whence came the Maori people; in the Marquesas—Havaiki=the lower regions of the dead; in the Sandwich Islands—Hawaii=the chief member of the archipelago.

But for some time back the interest attaching to the Samoan group has been rather of a political than a scientific character. Unfortunately for itself it has entered into the comity of nations; and its direct relations with England, the United States, and Germany have converted it into a sort of diplomatic cockpit for these rivals for supremacy in the Pacific waters. The resolute and not over-scrupulous Teuton has so far had the best of it; and according to the latest reports the authority of the native King Malietoa has been practically replaced by that of Herr Weber, whilom Hamburg trader, and present accredited "Agent" of Germany to the Court of Apia.

But these political squabbles have not been an unmixed evil, for to them we are at least indebted for the book under notice, decidedly the best that has yet appeared on the social condition of the Samoan Islanders. It constitutes a pleasantly-written record of Mr. Churchward's personal experiences during his four years' residence in Samoa, to which he was appointed British Consul in 1882, with the option of accepting the collateral position of "Adviser and Chief Secretary to King Malietoa." A very brief residence in the capital, Apia, sufficed to show that this was not a desirable position; and not the least amusing portions of the book are the descriptions of the interviews between the consul and the kings's ministers, in which the former declines, and the latter urge his acceptance of, the proferred honour.

"In spite of what I could say, they would not realise that I had honestly declined their service, for I was the first white that had done this extraordinary thing. Their experiences showed them that their greatest trouble had ever been to keep foreigners out from taking up Government positions among them, whether they wanted them or not; that white volunteers, premiers, land commissioners, chief justices, treasurers—the latter especially—were to be had for the asking, and that they could fill these positions four deep any day they pleased. Yet here was a man who refused to come to them and revel in the glory of all these titles, although, as they thought, he had been commanded to do so by his great chief."

Mr. Churchward has a good eye for the beauties of nature, and describes with considerable power his frequent visits to the enchanting scenery of these lovely South Sea Islands. The region of the wonderful waterfall visible from Apia above the Vaisigago Valley was thoroughly explored almost for the first time, and views obtained of the fall both from above and below. It was seen

"tumbling over the edge of a precipice which closed in the entire valley like a wall, impassable at any point but by the lofty heights on either side. The place where the fall itself occurs is a water-worn reft in the solid rock, through which the river takes its desperate leap of quite four hundred feet, and flashes so brightly in the sunshine to the observer at Apia. From thence is to be seen the whole course of the Vaisigago Valley, with the sea brightly blue beyond. When gazing into the giddy depths below, where the largest trees appeared like small shrubs, the thick body of water continually passing by us appeared in falling to get thinner and thinner, until, dwindling to a silver thread, it ended in snowy-white fleecy mist."

But when seen from below this fleecy mist

"appeared in all its reality in the form of an immense ever-rising fountain shower of feathery spray dashed up by the everlasting crash of the upper waters from their giddy height into the pool below. Immediately over this lovely sight hung suspended a glittering border of prismatic hues, changing every moment and dancing and quivering in the sunlight."

The author had the rare good fortune to witness the annual arrival of those singular marine creatures, the Palolo worms, which appear in prodigious numbers at certain points in the reef-openings only once a year, and just for the single hour immediately before sunrise. The time of their arrival is calculated to a moment by observing the juxtaposition of the moon with a certain star; and should they fail to appear on that day, they are sure to do so on that day four weeks. Then the natives gather in their canoes from all parts to capture them in all sorts of vessels, and distribute them as great delicacies to their friends all over the archipelago.

"Suddenly, as if let loose at the one exact time, were to be seen wriggling and writhing up from the nethermost depths millions upon millions of long thread-like worms of many colours, all seeming to be racing at their topmost speed to arrive at the surface and make the most of the short time permitted them for their annual exhibition. Up they came in myriads until the surface was thickly covered with one solid vermiculating mass of living animals. Shouting and laughing, everyone now plied his or her scoop as busily as possible baling up the writhing delicacies at top speed, to make as good use of the short time available as could be. No sooner had the sun thrown his first ray on the water than, as if by magic, with the same common accord with which they had risen to the surface, they all disappeared, sinking lower and lower to the depths below, until not a single sign of their presence was to be observed in the very spot where, a moment before, the water was perfectly muddy with animal life."

The Palolo feast is naturally one of the great events of Samoan life; and to the other amusements of the islanders has lately been added the English game of cricket, greatly modified, however, to suit the national taste for display with the least possible expenditure of physical exertion. Yet even in this mitigated form the game soon acquired in these touchy times of international rivalries a sufficient amount of political significance to excite the umbrage of His Imperial Majesty's representative at the Court of Apia.

"Once during a time of trouble cricket assumed a political importance, by the aid of which the natives hoped to tide over a dangerous time until their expected relief arrived, in the shape of British annexation to put them out of their misery. They had officially written to England

* It is noteworthy that Samoan not only preserves the *s*, but in foreign words tends even to substitute it for *h*, which sound is not known in this dialect. Thus *Sapai* for *Hapai* (Rev. S. J. Whitmee).

* Organic form: *Savaiki*.

offering their country, and then, to avoid all further complications or roughly exacted explanations, they determined to start a cricket match of such stupendous proportions that it would last until they got an answer from home; during which time they considered that, being engaged in playing, they had a valid excuse for not taking notice of any business that might unpleasantly crop up. In fact, the entire government was playing cricket, and could not be disturbed. The game began, but I don't know whether it was ever finished or not. Anyhow, I don't think it had any particular effect upon the usual run of politics, but I do know that their letter to England was never answered. Shortly after this incident the Germans were very much down upon the natives, finding fault with everything they did, and continually informing them that their insignificant little group was insulting the great German Empire; and they eventually forbade the King, under dire penalties, to play the game called 'cricket' at his seat of government."

It is evident from this and several other still more outspoken passages that at least one British functionary still survives who has the courage of his opinions. But his fate in Samoa was not such as to encourage others; for the Germans not only suppressed the British game of cricket, but also extinguished the British Consul himself, the only man who dared to stand between them and their Samoan victims.

"Such conduct, however, did not appear to please the powers that were; for it happened that many hints I had received from Germans to the effect that if I did not cease to oppose them in their native intrigues my relief would be effected—a warning I could not bring myself to believe had any official significance—*did prove true, and my official reign in Samoa was brought to an end.*"

It seems there is some reason to congratulate ourselves that this crowding out policy has begun about a century too late. However meekly we may now be contented to go to the wall, and however eagerly each successive party administration may vie in pusillanimity with its predecessor, it is still a fact that many of the fair places on the surface of the earth were luckily already secured for our overflowing population before the irrepressible Teuton was able to put in a claim for his share of the spoils.

Mr. Churchward is not a scientific observer, nor does he deal at all with the difficult problems of Oceanic ethnology. Nevertheless, he has sufficient commonsense to distinguish between the brown Polynesians and the black Papuans, which some recent specialists have failed to do. "Nothing whatever of the Papuan about them," is his emphatic remark on the physical appearance of the Polynesian Samoans. Like others who have associated much with them, he is eloquent on their genial, kindly disposition and high intellectual qualities. At the same time he clearly sees that they lack the mental stamina necessary for permanent self-government, and hence must sooner or later fall into the hands of some foreign power. At the same time it seems a pity that, according to present appearances, they are not likely to be permitted to choose their own masters.

"Samoa never will be settled until some power takes her in hand. The natives know it, and openly say so themselves; but for choosing the country they would wish to be annexed to, they have had to suffer many persecutions, which, however, have not in the smallest degree shaken their resolution. They are painfully aware of their hopeless weakness, and heartily sick of the shuttlecock, no-child-of-mine sort of existence that they have had to endure, tossed about between three nationalities, each jealous of the other, and who will neither let them alone nor take them up. Their choice for annexation is most decidedly British, for which they have petitioned over and over again since very old times. American protection they sought once, but to Germany they never have appealed, though several times ordered to do so."

The book is well printed, but has neither map nor illustrations; and, worse still, lacks an index. A. H. Keane.

Beyond the Seas: being the Surprising Adventures and Ingenious Opinions of Ralph Lord St. Keyne, told and set forth by his Cousin, Humphrey St. Keyne. By Oswald Crawfurd. (Chapman & Hall.)

We shall not call this book a novel. It is not so denominated on the title-page, and it has no more claim to the designation than has *Gulliver's Travels* or *Robinson Crusoe*. It has become a fashion of late, why, we know not, to call every book which deals subjectively with the imagination a novel. We do not care to go into the derivation of words, for old meanings have little to do with new ones; but we are certain that a novel, as the word was understood by our fathers, had a limited meaning, which excluded books such as the one before us. Considering the mountains of ill-digested rubbish which are now manufactured with little more strain on the intellect than patent blacking or "Indian pickles," we should be insulting Mr. Crawfurd if we compared his book with them.

Beyond the Seas is an imaginary history of two relatives, Lord St. Keyne and his illegitimate cousin Humphrey. It is written in a dialect which has a seventeenth-century flavour, but no archaisms are introduced which jar upon the ear or make reading in any way task-work. There is the slightest possible love story in it. Much about the sea and fights thereon with Barbary rovers, and still more—more in value that is, not in bulk—concerning Lord St. Keyne's mystical philosophy or theology. This is the best part of the book. There are many passages in it, whole pages indeed, which would lead a careless reader to imagine that the author was a Roman Catholic; other passages, however, could be pointed out which render this conclusion in a high degree improbable. With the religious or philosophical views of the author we are not concerned. It is those of his hero that interest us. We are bound to say that he has represented a gentleman of the seventeenth century, a cavalier and a member of the old religion, in a manner that we have never seen surpassed. There is hardly a thought of his recorded that might not have passed through the brain of some one of the many heroic souls who fled from "the crowning mercy" of Worcester. The thinking men of that day who were not Puritans or Hobbists were almost all mystics. Some, of which Sir Kenelm Digby was a type, were Catholics; others clung to the established religion, which had for a time fallen as much by the wretched propping and underpinning of Laud and the creatures of the court as by the onslaught of the Puritans in the council or on the battlefield. A third section, of which Lord Herbert of Cherbury is an illustrious example, were sceptics; but their doubts were the result of the mind acting on thought or thought-forms, not of methods afterwards popularised by Locke.

We should like to persuade ourselves that Lord St. Keyne was really one of the first class—that the notes of his life before us were not the creation of a nineteenth-century intellect which has come in contact with the lights and darknesses of our modern time, but in very truth what they seem to be. On laying down the volume the sweet charm of thoughts set in such quiet, homely, living words so overpowers the mind that it is difficult for one who has once made the self-surrender to throw off the illusion, or to refrain from asking what would have been Lord St. Keyne's suggestions towards solving this or that moral or philosophical problem which oppresses us in these weary days of pessimism, wantonness, and sloth. Though they did not write or talk so much as people do now, we have not all of us forgotten that the men of the seventeenth century had a conception of justice which is not common with us. They could admire virtue if they would not practise it; and they knew with the certainty of an uncorrupted faith that good and bad, virtue and vice, were not mere names, but stern realities, between which was a gulf as wide and as impassable as that which cut off Dives from Lazarus. Though Mr. Crawfurd's pages are in no sort didactic he has felt this, and never made his characters talk as if they thought success was to be achieved here or anywhere else by trying "to make the best of both worlds." This is high praise, we know, but we are constrained to give it. We should speak far differently were there any notes of the mere book manufacturer to be found; but there are none, or if there be they have remained undiscovered after careful scrutiny. We believe *Beyond the Seas* to have been written without any thought as to how many copies the great circulating libraries would gulp down, and that the dreadful face of the reviewer has not intruded between Mr. Crawfurd and the sunlight. As the merit of the book does not consist in splendour of diction, but in the quiet harmonies, quotations can be of little service. The following paragraph may, as well as any other, be torn out of its setting:

"I would propose, sir, to divide mankind into two kinds or species—a higher, a rarer, and by comparison almost a divine species, the individuals of which act by their own spontaneity; and a lower species, which acts and moves and thinks and speaks from necessitation and of blind impulse and instinct, unwitting and unaware."

The description of the sea-fights are first-rate. Whether right or wrong in technical detail, they have all the clear-cut sharpness of those old tales of adventure, which now, it is sad to say, remain unopened on the shelves of our great libraries, while every libidinous tale in prose or verse finds eager readers, annotators, and renderers into English.

Edward Peacock.

Ourselves and our Neighbours: Short Chats on Social Topics. By Louise Chandler Moulton. (Boston, U.S.: Roberts.)

This brightly written book is another *Conduct of Life*—of life in its social rather than its individual bearings—from the point of view of a sensible woman. Mrs. Moulton does not write like Emerson, or think like him, but she is quite as sound a philosopher. In one important respect her style is to be preferred even to his, for it is cheerful, humorous, and fluent. Emerson would have found some difficulty in treating of such subjects as "Rosebuds in Society" and "Young Beaux and Old Bachelors"; but to Mrs. Moulton they suggest reflections that are as useful in their way as the more abstract results of reason. The "rosebud," for instance, is "thorny," especially in America, where a girl "speaks of a single woman past her first youth as 'that poor old thing'!" The young beau and the pretty rosebud—be it never so thorny—have the best of the more fleeting pleasures of life; but what of the over-blown ungathered bud, and the gay bachelor grown old?

"The old beau looks about him and sees his contemporaries buying houses and leading their children by the hand, and he scoffs a little perhaps, and tries to think that he is glad not thus to be bored and burdened. But his laughter is hollow; and when he goes home at night and sits before his lonesome fire, he sees in the firelight glow the long-lost Spanish castle, of which he threw away the key in his youth, and fancies what might have been if youth had but known."

Yet in regard to marriage, like a sensible woman and sound philosopher, Mrs. Moulton urges delay. "Marriage should be waited for, not sought. Who knows round what corner his destiny may be hiding?" The man should wait until destiny has done mocking him with make-believes; the girl until it has been revealed to her that she is this same hiding destiny. In the case of such a girl as a recent Senior Classic, there is another reason for delay. "We should at least give a girl time enough to lock up her diploma and rest from her own examinations before she is called on to examine the claims of some young man to be her suitor." For those who are already married Mrs. Moulton has the wisest of good counsels. She approves the mutual devotion of husband and wife whose understanding of each other is so complete that speech is almost unnecessary between them. "There comes a time to men when the dearest and holiest things are rather lived than spoken, and the woman makes a mistake who feels herself unloved because the fervours of early utterance are absent from the speech of her husband." But the lesson has another side. "Men should remember that women hunger for words, and not wait, as Carlyle did, to breathe their vain remorse and despair beside a grave." The fact that there are unsympathetic husbands and wives suggests a chapter on "A Statute of Limitation," which gravely discusses the propriety of putting an end to relations that have become insupportable. But it is a discreet chapter, like all the rest, and is not calculated or intended to promote divorce. Mrs. Moulton has invented the happy notion that a dinner-party to married people is "a benevolent scheme for giving the too-much-married a little vacation," inasmuch as the husband takes somebody else's wife in to dinner. But the repose of this short vacation is marred by the reflection that the partner for the time being of the dull or stupid wife will pity her husband. Of course the argument cuts both ways, though Mrs. Moulton is good enough to spare the husband all the humiliation she can. For it may be that it is he who is stupid, and not his wife, in which case, while the short vacation still results in the chagrin of the husband, it is the wife who finds a temporary relief in the society of a brighter partner. Dulness, however, is only a relative quality, and Mrs. Moulton very wisely qualifies her scorn of it; for, as she says, the man who takes some other man's dull wife in to dinner "will pity him, not knowing what a household blessing she is, or where the wings are hidden away underneath the silken shoulders of her best gown."

One of these interesting "short chats" is about "Courtesy at Home," a subject on which there is every need—as much in England, I fear, as in the writer's own country—for the excellent lessons she enforces. Courtesies omitted to children or to inferiors in station, the absence between equals of those nice observances which show respect, rudeness to servants, undue liberties with anyone—these and the like breaches of good conduct are effectively denounced. The household in which none of them occur is very happily described:

"The perfect home is one where no least detail of courtesy is omitted between husband and wife, parents and children, masters and servants; but where this good-breeding is not the slavish obedience to a set of fixed rules, but of honest respect for individual rights, and heart-felt desire on the part of each one to be as agreeable and as much beloved as is possible."

Not the least interesting chapter is one on "Watering-Place Society." Mrs. Moulton has a smart vein of satire, which she indulges here in regard to Saratoga trunks, hotel toilettes, counts who are no counts, peers with fictitious pedigrees, and all the dubious, but free and easy, adjuncts of most summer resorts. "The Caprices of Fashion" (embodying a brilliant sketch of the whilom "girl of the period," changed into a disciple of "Beauty in Life," and, at a later period, from something early English into something Greek, but now degenerating again into a new vulgarity), "The Gospel of Good Gowns," and other similar topics, furnish matter for very lively treatment. There is absolutely no twaddle in the book until we approach the end, when we get an unmitigated dose of it in a chapter on "The Fashion in Poetry." Here we begin with "old Homer," who "sang joyfully in the morning of his art," and end with a sickly poet (so-called) on whom "fate had surely smiled." But the absurd young man, notwithstanding the smile of fate and the assurance of fame and the love of an admiring girl, was "the very wretchedest of men."

"In the midst of his joys and hopes, Death, having an idle moment on hand, had stepped to his side and whispered, 'Sometime you must come with *me*—sometime, and it may be soon.' And this whisper was the heart of his despair." Poor fellow! Pity that Death wasted time in whispering. He had better have made a summary end of the business. Mrs. Moulton mistakes the fashion in poetry; but she perfectly well understands everything else that she writes about. George Cotterell.

NEW NOVELS.

The Gay World. By Joseph Hatton. In 3 vols. (Hurst & Blackett.)

The New Antigone. In 3 vols. (Macmillan.)

Lady Grace, and other Stories. By Mrs. Henry Wood. In 3 vols. (Bentley.)

The Great Bank Robbery. By Julian Hawthorne. (Cassell.)

In the Shires. By Sir Randal H. Roberts, Bart. (White.)

From Deacon to Churchwarden. By J. W. Kirton. (Sonnenschein.)

The Gates Between. By Elizabeth Stuart Phelps. (Ward, Lock & Co.)

In many respects *The Gay World* is the ablest novel Mr. Hatton has written. A greater unity, and more of human passion, perhaps, were noticeable in *Clytie*; but the later work is evidently by a man of riper experience, and one thoroughly acquainted with the ways of the world. Dedicated to a distinguished explorer, upon whom the eyes of all Europe and America are at present fixed, *The Gay World* seeks to relate the deeds of a youthful hero of Mr. Stanley's type in Godfrey Jessop. The pioneer is not only shown in his private life, where he is all that a hero should be; but his adventures and hairbreadth escapes in Sulungun, an island in the Eastern seas, are traced with considerable skill and vigour. Jessop had previously done good work in Central Africa, which caused him to be sent out to Sulungun, in whose exploration he was backed by Government power and every resource of civilisation. He is reported to have been killed by the natives; and the news carries sorrow into faithful hearts in England, of whom the charming heroine, Helen Kennett, is the chief. But of course he lives, and returns to claim his bride, with whom he goes out to Sulungun, having been appointed British governor of the island. The episodes connected with Jessop and his love affairs absorb only a portion of the elements of the story; and herein, we think, Mr. Hatton makes a mistake. His canvas is not large enough for all he endeavours to put upon it; and, consequently, things are very much hurried in the third volume. Time would fail us to tell of the myriad incidents crowded into this novel. We pass from a dinner to Mr. Stanley to detective revelations in Piccadilly; from a great diamond robbery in Africa to the Van Beers' Exhibition in New Bond Street; from adventures in Sulungun to the last show of the Royal Academy; from the earthquake at Ischia to the pastoral beauties of Dove Dale in Derbyshire; and from trains in motion on the South-Eastern Railway, where a notorious bullion robbery is going on, to Loftus Kennett's magnificent villa on the Thames. The Hon. Eric Yorke relates the story, one of whose main purposes is to unravel the mystery of "The White

Star" diamond, together with the vast forgeries of Loftus Kennett, philanthropist and millionaire—a kind of "Jim the Penman," whose gorgeous house of cards ultimately topples about his ears, while he himself passes into penal servitude. Even yet we have not exhausted the author's conceptions. Besides the history of a fallen society beauty, who is intimately associated with Kennett, and a Yankee swindler of a very "tall" order indeed, there is the recital of a once famous trial at the Central Criminal Court, when the great robbery of gold on the South-Eastern line, between London Bridge and Folkestone, was brought home to the criminals concerned. The title of the novel seems a little forced, though we do obtain passing glimpses of "The Gay World" of the metropolis. As a whole the book is most interesting; and it is interspersed with many clever passages, bits of choice description, and happy touches of character. The printer's reader has not done his work well. We read of "a landscape by Carot," "the Partheon" (Parthenon), "Mr. Justice Willis" (Wills), "Mr. Sergeant Shea," &c. We cannot charge upon the reader, however, the ascription of the novel *Joan* to Mrs. Burnett. Mr. Hatton brings into his pages several living characters who will easily be recognised.

A very unconventional novel is *The New Antigone*, and one written with marked ability and literary skill. It probes the new revolutionary doctrines of Free Love, Socialism, Nihilism, and so forth, to the core, and shows how utterly inadequate they are to satisfy the deeper cravings of human nature. The heroine, Hippolyta Valence, is presented to us in the outset as at war with the customs of society. She does not believe in the marriage bond. The crown of life for her "is to love and be loved. There was nothing beyond it, nothing to compare with it, nothing that would compensate for its loss." This doctrine, and others quite as advanced, she translates into action. It is in vain she is warned that "the young are enthusiastic without knowledge, as the old have knowledge without enthusiasm." But when the revulsion of thought and feeling does come with Hippolyta, her sufferings are very keen. She is saved, but so as by fire. There is real tragedy in this part of the story. Against the subversive social ideas are set forth the practical virtues of Christianity, as exemplified in Miss Desmond:

"The delight of her life was to save the young out of that terrible devouring fire through which they are passed to a worse than Moloch. She had ransomed many hundreds and sent them to the far continents which have been created to redress the injustice and lighten the shameful misery of a civilisation become so chaotic as our own."

The fever dens of London welcomed this true sister of mercy; and there are other characters in this book equally noble. The author teaches, in regard to deliverance from the crime and oppression of the world, that there is only one revolution—that described by Victor Hugo, which "means liberty and light. It means equality in the best things, the only things worth having—love, and justice and truth. It means reason, not dynamite." We shall look with great interest to the next appearance of the anonymous author of *The New Antigone*.

The posthumous stories by Mrs. Henry Wood do not, we regret to say, sustain the reputation acquired by the author of *The Channings* and *East Lynne*. No doubt, in *Lady Grace* there are reminiscences of that facility in the construction of plot which did so much to give the excellent writer now deceased her reputation; but it lacks grip and cohesion. Lady Grace is well drawn, yet the best character of all is her husband, the Dean of Denham, who dies the victim of accumulated troubles, and who begets in us a real sympathy. There are certain incidents in the life of both which seemed to call for mutual explanation before it was too late. The Dean's sons, Cyras and Charles Baumgarten, are not ordinary youths, though they cause great anxiety, as boys with some originality generally do. As for the rest of the narrative, there is a good deal of marrying and giving in marriage before it comes to a close. "A Soldier's Career," one of the minor sketches, tells the pathetic story of a gallant young Englishman's death during the Sikh War; and a touching picture is drawn of the fidelity of an Indian girl. If the story entitled "The Surgeon's Daughters" points to anything at all, it is to a belief in witchcraft. The predictions of a nineteenth-century wizard are given in such a manner as to bespeak credence for them on the part of the reader—at least the author assures us that the sketch is no fancy one, but absolutely true. "The Unholy Wish" accentuates two morals—one the wickedness of calling down curses upon your enemy's head, and the other the foolishness of flirtation. If these sketches are not equal to Mrs. Henry Wood's earlier productions, they are far more readable than many novels which see the light.

Mr. Julian Hawthorne's sketch of *The Great Bank Robbery*, compiled from the diary of a police inspector of New York, is very clever and exciting. The reader's interest is held all through, and the encounter on a railway journey between Inspector Byrnes and the beautiful and fascinating criminal heroine of the story is as good as anything in Gaboriau.

In the Shires is a rattling novel, with plenty of go in it, though some of the characters we are introduced to are of a very shady character, and several degrees worse than the average blackleg. The story lifts the veil on several aspects of London life, while it is also redolent of the hunting country.

From Deacon to Churchwarden unfolds the history of a purse-proud *parvenu*, who becomes the ruling spirit of a Dissenting church, browbeating minister and people at his pleasure. As the worm will turn at last, however, so the Rev. Arthur Bradford and his flock revolt against the iron sway of the worldly deacon. By-and-by he loses all his influence, severs his connexion entirely with Dissent, and takes his wealth and power into the Church of England, where he is made much of, and becomes churchwarden. His career is for a time brilliant if arrogant; but his proud domineering spirit is at length broken down by a series of trials, domestic and other. From the literary point of view, Dr. Kirton's sketch is miserably poor, and destitute of the faintest gleam of originality. It is written in a bald and feeble style, not a whit superior to that in which second or third-rate prize tales are composed. Take a couple of sentences from page 2, the italics being ours: Wakley, the deacon, had "successfully pushed *his way on* step by step, until he had fought *his way up* from one position to another, leaving others who started at the same time far behind. He had somehow been able to edge *his way on*, higher and higher," &c., &c. There is a fearful and wonderful use of the comma all through this volume.

Of a wholly different type is *The Gates Between*, by Miss Phelps. Here we have literary talent of a high order, combined with a weird and pathetic story. The whole narrative is beautifully written, while in conception it is very uncommon. This is not only one of the few books calculated to linger in the memory, but is one eminently deserving of remembrance. G. Barnett Smith.

RECENT THEOLOGY.

St. Paul's First Epistle to the Corinthians: with a Critical and Grammatical Commentary. By Charles J. Ellicott, Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol. (Longmans.) Though "more than a generation has passed away" since Bishop Ellicott's commentaries on other Epistles of Paul made their appearance, these have kept their ground so well that it cannot be necessary to say more of this one than that it is, with some modifications, on the same general plan as its predecessors. That is to say, the commentary is, as it professes to be, essentially a critical and grammatical one, being a continuous attempt to ascertain—"by means of a close and persistent consideration of the grammatical form and logical connexion of the language," and with all the aid that could be afforded by a thorough knowledge of the Versions, the Greek expositors, and the works of living commentators—the precise meaning of the original; though, at the same time, other points of interest suggested to the reader are not wholly passed over, and copious references point to trustworthy sources of information. The bishop has not adopted any of the critical texts, but has preferred to exercise his own judgment upon the materials supplied by Tischendorf and Tregelles; and thus, in every doubtful case, the reader has the benefit of Bishop Ellicott's ripe judgment, while he is not embarrassed with the details of the evidence on which that judgment is based. In all important cases the decisions of Lachmann, Tischendorf, Tregelles, Westcott and Hort, and the Revisers have been specified. One feature in which this volume will be found to differ from its predecessors is the absence of the complete translation added to the text. The reason for this is, of course, the publication in the meantime of the Revised Version of the whole New Testament. Of the translation of this First Epistle to the Corinthians, Bishop Ellicott's judgment, after renewed and unbiassed examination, is that it is the most accurate version "that has ever yet appeared in any language."

The Picture of Paul. By the Rev. R. H. Haweis. (Charles Burnet & Co.) This is the fourth volume of Mr. Haweis's series entitled "Christ and Christianity," the first volume of which is to be published last. The author, by his treatment of the Epistles to the Seven Churches, in his *Story of the Four*, has pre-

pared us for his point of view in the "Picture" before us. Holding that the Nicolaitanes of Revelation ii. 6 were followers of St. Paul, and the Epistles to the Seven Churches a counterblast to the teaching of the Apostle to the Gentiles, he of course conceives of St. Paul's life as one long warfare against the machinations of "the Pillars," endorsing fully the views of the Tübingen school of criticism. Mr. Haweis's plan is to state his own view clearly and positively without discussing rejected theories, but this only makes it the more essential that Mr. Haweis's own view should be the right one. In the present case he has against him the most learned and thorough of recent commentators, Bishop Lightfoot, and also St. Luke, whose "diary," if Mr. Haweis be right, is surely disingenuous in the extreme. But although it is a most serious blot on *The Picture of Paul* that it practically ignores Bishop Lightfoot's candid and careful volumes, yet Mr. Haweis's graphic and vigorous statement of his own view deserves a hearing. Its essential and fatal weakness is its thoroughly modern style and tone. As Tübingen critics see in St. Paul a German professor, so Mr. Haweis's sees in him a Broad Church divine, or, to be quite just and accurate, a Mr. Haweis. It is, perhaps, a true and useful analogy to compare, with some reservations, St. Paul's position in the early Christian Church with a Broad Churchman's in the Anglican Church of to-day; but this is not to say that St. Paul was a Dr. Arnold or a Dean Stanley, still less a Mr. Haweis. Against the statement that St. Paul "sowed the seeds of a new Broad Church Christianity throughout Asia Minor," even the most convinced Broad Churchman will protest; and when he finds Mr. Haweis instituting a comparison between St. Paul's troubles at Antioch and those caused by "certain fussy creatures . . . who complain now that the clergyman wears a black gown in the pulpit," he will smile. Mr. Haweis's exposition has at least the advantage of simplicity. St. Stephen was "the *enfant terrible* of the Jerusalem Church," for before he preached "Christians had been regarded as a sort of revivalist Jews, nothing more." After his death St. Paul took his place, and the Pauline party henceforth "remained the *enfans terribles* of the pure Jews and Jew Christians alike." It will be seen that Mr. Haweis's style is as colloquial as ever. In one place at least—where we are told that St. Paul "nearly did for himself at Lystra"—it is more than familiar. Moreover, we strongly suspect that the jaunty imaginative expansions of speeches occasionally indulged in by Mr. Haweis are as false in realism as they are questionable in taste. But even if the realism be accurate, what possible end is gained by expanding St. Luke's remark, after his account of the speech on Mars' Hill, that "some mocked," into this sort of rubbish:

"'Paul, your eyes look rather weak,' one would say, 'Stand out of the sun, my good man. I'm sure you've had enough for to-day—we have. It's very warm; hadn't you better go home? What! you can't see your way down the steps? We'll help you.' Or the more polite Stoic would say, as the words 'Resurrection of the Dead' left Paul's lips—'Good Jew! We can't stay any longer—we go to the baths—we've got an appointment. A word in your ear—we did ask you to speak, no doubt, but your style's not the thing.'"

Mr. Haweis gives us quite a page in this strain, and he does it very smartly; but it surely is a complete waste of paper and wit. St. Luke's two words were enough. We have dwelt so far upon the faults of the book, but the merits are equally obvious. In force and vigour it contrasts very favourably with more bulky, if more accurate, rivals. A short, terse, vivid life of St. Paul has not yet been written in English, even Canon Farrar's vigorous picture has too much frame. Mr. Haweis's dramatic power finds full scope in his rapid sketch. The death of Stephen, the prison scene at Philippi, the speech on the castle steps at Jerusalem, the storm on the way to Rome, are described with splendid energy and vividness. Noticeable phrases and sentences are frequent. "We are not enough in our deserts," "the deep slumber of a decided opinion," St. Paul was "the sanest mystic that ever lived," may be given as instances. The pathetic beauty of many passages in the book makes us especially impatient of the undignified descents we have noted. The volume, on the whole, contains finer passages than either of its predecessors, and is more forcibly and connectedly written, but probably tells us more about Mr. Haweis than about St. Paul.

Kirchengeschichtliche Studien. Hermann Reuter zum 70 Geburtstag gewidmet von Theodor Brieger, Paul Tschackert, Theod. Kolde, Fried. Loofs und Karl Mirbt. Mit einer Beigabe von August Reuter. (Williams & Norgate.) These studies in church history, based on original research, and bringing to light, as they do in several cases, sources of information hitherto inaccessible, will be found of great interest to specialists in the departments to which they severally belong. The first, which, it may be said, is critical rather than historical, is a very full discussion of the MSS. of Irenaeus, by Prof. Loofs, of Halle, with an attempt at their classification, leading to the result that the Latin Irenaeus is textually as perfect as few old writers, and that until the Greek can be found there is nothing more to desire. The second paper collects and balances the opinions of the "Gregorians" and "Anti-Gregorians," in the matter of the deposition of the Emperor Henry IV., while in the third Prof. Tschackert avails himself of researches which he has been privileged to make among the archives of the city of Königsberg to throw an interesting light on the character of the often-named, though little-known, Georg von Polentz, the reforming Bishop of Samland. Mention must also be made of several valuable contributions to the history of the Reformation by Prof. Kolde, including a letter of Cochleus to Capito, throwing light on his change of sentiment towards Luther; and, now for the first time printed in full, the confession of Johann Denk, schoolmaster of Nuremberg, as well as other documents pertaining to his trial and that of the "three godless painters," banished for their share in the heresies of Müntzer. Students of confessional literature will no doubt turn with interest to Prof. Brieger's paper on the Articles of Torgau, in which he seeks to advance the question beyond the point at which it was left by Engelhardt in 1865. It is certainly a remarkable example of good taste and self-restraint even carried to an extreme that this birthday offering appears without dedication of any kind, indeed, without either preface or introduction, the only personal reference being contained in a note prefixed to the last-named essay. What more acceptable offering, however, could there be presented to a venerable teacher, on his seventieth birthday, than such a collection of original researches carried on in his spirit and under the stimulus of his instructions by grateful pupils? May it be a *monumentum aere perennius*!

Sketches of Church and State in the First Eight Centuries. By the Rev. W. Armitage. (Rivingtons.) The object in writing these sketches has been to describe in popular form some of the leading persons and events, parties and movements, in the Church and the world, during the first eight centuries of the Christian Era. That this object may be attained the sketches should be remarkable either for their interest and picturesqueness, or for their clear statement of results; but they fail in both these respects. Mr. Armitage has gone carefully through his authorities, and what he tells us is generally correct; but his whole narrative is singularly colourless and languid. He is at his best in the chapters on English Church History, just because his field becomes a little narrower, and he has time to tell us something of his subject, instead of merely alluding to it. This failure to be interesting is unfortunate, because the book makes no pretence to be a statement of general results, or an abridgment of facts. It is interesting or it is nothing. We notice that Mr. Armitage repeats the story of the altar found at Rome dedicated "Simoni Deo," and seems unaware that the inscription should be "Semoni," and probably has nothing to do with Simon Magus.

The Story of our Lord. By Frances Younghusband (Longmans.) This is an attempt to tell the life of Christ for children, that they may be able to picture it as a connected whole. It does not profess to be more than a "stepping stone," and its simplicity and clearness will make it useful. The copious engravings which illustrate the volume are taken "from a very beautiful edition of the New Testament, published some years ago by Messrs. Longmans & Co., as the life-work of a member of their firm"; but they will be appreciated by grown-up people more than by children.

Of the Imitation of Christ. By Thomas à Kempis. A newly revised Translation. (Griffith, Farran, & Co.) This is the first of a proposed series of "handy shilling volumes," which, "well printed and bound in cloth," will constitute "The Ancient and Modern Library of Theological Literature." Price, printing and binding, are equally admirable, and the editing has been careful. A short, but sufficient introduction, and a very few well-chosen notes, accompany the text. The quotations from Scripture are given in the words of the Authorised Version and the Prayer-Book Psalms. The edition should be a favourite one.

The History of Tithes from Abraham to Queen Victoria. By Henry W. Clarke. (Redway.) Mr. Clarke writes under two great disadvantages. He seems imperfectly acquainted with English, producing such extraordinary sentences as the following: "And what makes the case worse, is to distort Scripture so as to deceive the people who could neither read nor write, and even those who could read had no open Bible to consult to see for themselves whether these things were so.". . . "The journey to Britain was then considered a hazardous undertaking, being considered in so remote a part of the world." And, secondly, he states in his introduction that "the Catholic Revival has transformed the Church of England into a *nursery* or recruiting depôt for the Church of Rome," which statement, whether we accept it or not, has nothing to do with the question of tithes, and makes us at once doubtful of the impartiality of our author. But in spite of these defects Mr. Clarke's book is useful. He has thoroughly mastered his subject, and manages to present us with most of the facts in a comparatively short compass. He is candid and just, and very careful to quote his authorities when discussing disputed questions. His criticisms of the "Brief" of the S.P.C.K. and of Lord Selborne's *Defence* are sensible and accurate. The chapter on the redemption of tithe-rent charge is a useful statement of what it would cost the nation to abolish tithes. But the faults of style which we have noticed make Mr. Clarke very stiff reading. He gives us nowhere a clear explanation of why he thinks it advisable that tithes should be redeemed. The reader is left to find this out for himself from

the facts which Mr. Clarke awkwardly plumps down before him, or to accept the absurd reason of the introduction. The book, in short, will be helpful to the student, but baffling and wearisome to the general reader.

The Church of England, by E. Venables (S. P. C. K.), is an elementary account of the planting, settlement, reformation, &c., of the National Church. It is merely a digest of well-known books on the same subject, so that the reason of its publication is not easily perceived. Probably the best use to which it could be put would be its adoption as a reading book in Church Sunday schools.

Selections from the Book of 2 Kings. By Rev. H. H. Clifford. (Oxford: Clarendon Press.) Two maps, copious references to the Revised Version, and some short but careful notes will make this little treatise useful to the teacher. The selections are judiciously chosen.

NOTES AND NEWS.

It is stated that Mr. Aldis Wright is preparing for the press an edition of the writings of the late Edward Fitzgerald, the translator of Omar Khayyam, and the friend of Carlyle and Lord Tennyson. According to the New York *Nation*, the edition will include several works hitherto unpublished—such as his renderings of the "Oedipus Rex" and the "Oedipus Coloneus," as well as a copious selection from his correspondence.

The first instalment of Messrs. Macmillan & Co.'s new history of English literature, viz., *Elizabethan Literature*, by Mr. George Saintsbury, will be published immediately. It aims at giving a complete and clearly arranged view of the actual literary performance of the period from 1560 to 1600. The narrative is illustrated by abundant extracts from the less-known writers.

A well-known African traveller meditates trying his fortune as a writer of fiction. Some of the scenes of the story on which he is engaged will be laid in the vicinity of Kilimanjaro.

Sir Lepel Griffin is understood to have inspired the very plain-spoken article in the October number of the *Asiatic Quarterly Review* on "Indian Princes at Court."

Messrs. Macmillian & Co. will publish immediately a new volume of Essays by Mr. R. H. Hutton, entitled *Modern Guides of English Thought in Matters of Faith*. The essays deal with Carlyle, Newman, Matthew Arnold, George Eliot, and F. D. Maurice.

The Queen, as well as the Prince of Wales, have accepted copies of the fine edition of Benevenuto da Imola's famous commentary on Dante from the Hon. W. B. Warren Vernon, at whose expense the work has been printed, under the editorship of Sir James P. Lacaita. A copy was presented to the King of Italy on the occasion of the unveiling of the *facciata* of the Cathedral of Florence on May 12. Another has been accepted by the Queen of Italy, whose taste for learned studies is well known. The latter copy, together with those destined for the Queen and the Prince of Wales, have recently been sumptuously bound by Riviere in a style worthy of the best traditions of English bookbinding.

The Cambridge University Press will publish immediately *Bracton's Note Book*, being a collection of cases decided in the king's courts during the reign of Henry III., annotated by a lawyer of that time, seemingly Henry of Bratton. The work will form three volumes, and has been edited by Mr. F. W. Maitland, reader in English law at Cambridge.

Messrs. Richard Bentley & Son announce a work, in two volumes, by Mr. Arthur Nicols, entitled *Wild Life and Adventure in the Australian Bush*, with eight illustrations from sketches by Mr. J. T. Nettleship.

Miss Frances Martin's Memoir of Miss Elizabeth Gilbert, whose name is so well and honourably known in connexion with institutions for the blind, will be publishe l by Messrs. Macmillan & Co. towards the end of the month.

The popular lectures on theology, delivered at Philadelphia, shortly before his death, by the Rev. Dr. A. A. Hodge, sometime Professor of Didactic and Polemic Theology at Princeton, are announced for immediate publication by Messrs. Nisbet & Co.

The House of Surprises: a Story for Children, by L. T. Meade, is the title of the forthcoming "Little Folks' Annual," to be published on October 25.

Mr. John A. Stewart, author of *A Millionaire's Daughters* (reviewed in the Academy of March 5), is writing a serial for the *People's Journal*.

The Rev. Alfred Rowland has in the press a popular commentary on St. Paul's Letter to Timothy, together with a series of forty sermonettes. Messrs. Nisbet & Co. will publish the volume.

The *Century* will soon begin the publication of a series of papers, by Mr. Charles de Kay, on "Ireland, its Ethnology and Customs, Landscape, Town Life, Literature, and Arts." The illustrations will be, in large part, from sketches recently made in the country by Mr. J. W. Alexander.

A conference on "The Teaching of History in Schools" will be held, under the auspices of the Royal Historical Society, on Saturday next, October 22, at 3 p.m., in the great hall of the Society of Arts, Adelphi. Prof. Mandell Creighton will preside; and an address will be delivered by Mr. Oscar Browning, which will be followed by a discussion. The headmasters of most of the great public schools have promised their co-operation.

At the first meeting of the session of the New Shakspere Society, to be held at University College on Friday next, October 21, at 8 p.m., Dr. F. J. Furnivall will read a paper on "Henley-in-Arden, Bidford, and Shakspere's Country," and the Rev. H. C. Beeching "Some Notes on Criticisms of 'The Merchant of Venice.'"

Mr. Edmund Gosse will deliver the inaugural lecture of the new session at the Crouch End Literary Society on Tuesday next, October 18, at 8 p.m. The subject chosen is "Wordsworth and Pope"; and the future meetings will largely deal with the writers of Queen Anne's reign, in connexion with which a selected list of books has been issued by the society.

M. Charles Bigot, Professor of French Literature at Saint-Cyr, will shortly give in London four lectures on "The Influence of English Ideas on French Thought in the Eighteenth Century." The lectures will be given at Mr. Frederic Harrison's house, 38 Westbourne Terrace, on the following dates:—October 27 and 29, November 1 and 3. Application for tickets (one guinea for the course) should be made to Mr. David Nutt, 270 Strand.

The Prince of Wales has joined the Council of the Selden Society. Thanks to the exertions of Prof. Thayer, of Harvard, the Society is spreading rapidly in America, local secretaries having been appointed in many of the principal towns. In France, also, the Society has obtained the support of M. Léopold Delisle.

ORIGINAL VERSE.

BIMETALLISM.

When Clara's little golden head
Is lifted up to greet you, Fred,
If every kiss of hers secures
Just fifteen and a half of yours,
'Tis plain, a constant price for gold
In poorer metal can be told.
But if she rather, as I guess,
Deals you her kisses, more or less
According as she judges you
Deserve them plentiful or few;
A precious thing, you're forced to say,
Is worth whate'er one's forced to pay.
Or if your richest merchandise
Seems poor and worthless in her eyes,
So that the most that you can give
Can't win you wherewithal to live,
Then Clara may your want supply
Not as of debt, but charity.

W. H. S.

OBITUARY.

At the moment of going to press we hear of the death of Mrs. Craik, *née* Miss Muloch, known to all the world as the author of *John Halifax, Gentleman*. She died suddenly, from heart disease, on the afternoon of Wednesday, October 13, at her house at Shortlands, Kent. She was in the sixty-second year of her age.

MAGAZINES AND REVIEWS.

Perhaps the most noticeable paper in the magazines of this month is that on "Afghan Life in Afghan Songs," contributed by Prof. James Darmesteter, of the Collège de France, to the *Contemporary*. While not ignoring the labours of Major Raverty, Dr. Bellew, and Mr. Thorburn, the writer justly claims to have given the first picture of the wild tribesmen of the North-west frontier of India as drawn by themselves. The article owes not a little of its piquancy to the attitude of the professor, who spent a full twelvemonths in India on a commission from the French government. We are glad to learn that his collectiou of Afghan songs, of which the present is only a specimen, will shortly be published in full in Paris in the original Pushtu, with translation, notes, and a vocabulary.

We would also call attention to a charming article in *Murray's Magazine*, quaintly entitled "For those who love Music." It is written by Dr. Axel Munthe, the author of *Letters from a Mourning City*, and is marked by that combination of simplicity and depth of feeling of which Scandinavian writers appear to possess the secret.

We have received from Mr. Elliot Stock the first number of a new American magazine called the *Curio*, "devoted to genealogy and biography, heraldry and book plates, coins and autographs, rare books and works of art, old furniture and plate, and other colonial relics." As if this list of subjects were not long enough, we have also an instalment of a novel, by Mr. Edgar Fawcett, and a portrait of the Prince of Wales. The *format* of the magazine is commendable; and, if we may judge from the prospectus, some of the future numbers may be superior in value to the first.

HARVARD TO CAMBRIDGE.

The following is the reply to the address recently sent by the University of Cambridge to Harvard:

"Academia Harvardiana Academiae
"Cantabrigiensi S. P. D.

"Perjucundum nobis fuit quod, cum vos ludis nostris saecularibus frequentes interesse non possetis, litteris tamen benignis per virum inlustrissumum missis absentes quodam modo nobiscum

fuistis. ut enim longinquo spatio oceanoque dissociabili remotos ita animo vobiscum artissume coniunctos nos esse semper iuvat cogitare. nos quoque illorum dierum meminisse gaudemus, quibus, cum nuper conlegi nostro conlegio iustis de causis carissumi saecularia sacra tertio celebraretis, civem illum nostrum gratulationes nostras ad vos perferentem tanto cum hospitio excepistis. singulos quidem e vobis subinde apud nos salutare contigit, nec umquam sine magna voluptate nostra: quem numerum volventibus annis usque auctum iri speramus.

"Hoc vero tempore testimonium vostrae benevolentiae praecipua nos adficit laetitia, quo tempore memoriam a ducentis quinquaginta annis repetimus, ac nobiscum consideramus, quatenus munere a patribus nobis mandato fideliter perfungamur. ita cursum studiorum laborumque suorum nonnunquam intermittere et praeterita tempora contemplari omnibus profecto utile est, eisque utilissumum qui eo in saeculo eaque in civitate vivunt, ubi corporis et fortunae bonorum cupiditate quasi fatali vi homines ecferri videantur. tum maxume conparatis maiorum institutis vitaeque rationibus cum his, quae nunc apud nos florent, facilius intellegitur quae prava sint atque mutanda, quae diligentius servanda. tum maxume sunt grata amicitiae pignora ab aliis accepta qui easdem ac nos consectantur virtutes. sic verbis vostris in memoria nostra haerentibus laborabimus, ut fax illa veritatis, quam olim de vostris aris adcensam iuvenis ille secum in novam terram tulit, semper clarior luceat, academiaque nostra dignior sit illius nomine, dignior viris inlustribus qui eam a maioribus acceptam nobis tuendam tradiderunt, dignior ea scientia eaque vita expolita quas inter imperitos per totum orbem terrarum conservare semper est munus ac ius doctorum. Valete."

SELECTED FOREIGN BOOKS.

GENERAL LITERATURE.

Böhm, R. Von Sansibar zum Tanganjika. Leipzig: Brockhaus. 4 M.

Bonvalot, G. En Asie Centrale. (1) De Moscou en Bactriane; (2) Du Kohistan à la Caspienne. Paris: Plon. 8 fr.

Bourde, P. En Corse. Paris: Calmann Lévy. 3 fr. 50 c.

Delius, N. Abhandlungen zu Shakspere. Neue Folge. Elberfeld: Friderichs. 5 M.

Lesseps, Ferdinand de. Souvenirs de quarante ans, dédiés à mes enfants. Paris: *Nouvelle Revue*. 12 *fr.*

Müller, M. In ägyptischen Diensten. Erlebnisse e. ehemal. preuss. Husarenoffiziers. Leipzig: Brockhaus. 3 M.

Renault, C. Histoire des grèves. Paris: Guillaumin. 3 fr. 50 c.

Schneider, L. Geschichte der niederländischen Litteratur. Leipzig: Friedrich. 12 M.

Wessely, J. E. Kritische Verzeichnisse v. Werken hervorragender Kupferstecher. 3. Bd. John Smith. Hamburg: Haendcke. 5 M. 80 Pf.

THEOLOGY, ETC.

Hefele, C. J. v. Conciliengeschichte. Fortgesetzt v. J. Hergenröther. 8. Bd. Freiburg-i.-B.: Herder. 9 M. 60 Pf.

Hermae Pastor Graece integrum ambitu primum edidit A. Hilgenfeld. Leipzig: Weigel. 4 M.

HISTORY, ETC.

Gravière, Jurien de la. Les Chevaliers de Malte et la marine de Philippe II. Paris: Plon. 6 fr.

Hasse, H. G. Geschichte der sächsischen Klöster in der Mark Meissen u. Oberlausitz. Gotha: Perthes. 6 M.

Hommel, F. Abriss der Geschichte des alten Orients bis auf die Zeit der Perserkriege. Nördlingen: Beck. 1 M. 80 Pf.

Nissen, H. Griechische u. römische Metrologie. Nördlingen: Beck. 1 M.

Nogueira, M. T. A. Der Mönchsritter Nikolaus Durand v. Villegaignon. Ein Beitrag zur Kenntniss französisch-brasilian. Verhältnisse im 16. Jahrh. Leipzig: Brockhaus. 4 M.

Nöldeke, Th. Aufsätze zur persischen Geschichte. Leipzig: Weigel. 4 M.

Osborne, W. Das Beil u. seine typischen Formen in vorhistorischer Zeit. Dresden: Warnatz. 10 M.

Scriptores rerum Polonicarum. Tom. 11. cont. Diaria comitiorum Poloniae anni 1587. Krakau: Friedlein. 6 M.

Urkundenbuch. Asseburger, zur Geschichte d. Geschlechts Wolfenbüttel-Asseburg. 2. Thl. Bis zum J. 1400. Hrsg. von J. Graf v. Bocholtz-Asseburg. Hannover: Hahn. 12 M.

Wosinski, M. Das prähistorische Schanzwerk v. Lengyel, seine Erbauer u. Bewohner. 1. Hft. Budapest: Kilian. 6 M.

PHYSICAL SCIENCE AND PHILOSOPHY.

Acta, nova, academiae caesareae Leopoldino-Carolinae germanicae naturae curiosorum. 49.—51. Bd. Halle. 115 M.

Braun, D. Einleitung in das Studium der Geologie. Stuttgart: Enke. 5 M.

Handbuch der Botanik. Hrsg. v. A. Schenk. 3. Bd. 2. Hälfte. Breslau: Trewendt. 18 M.

Helm, G. Die Lehre v. der Energie, historisch entwickelt. Leipzig: Felix. 3 M.

Kraus, G. Beiträge zur Kenntniss fossiler Hölzer. III. u. IV. Halle: Niemeyer. 2 M.

Lenk, H. Zur geologischen Kenntniss der südlichen Rhön. Würzburg: Stahel. 3 M.

Loewy, Th. Die Vorstellung d. Dinges auf Grund der Erfahrung. Leipzig: Reissner. 7 M.

Samuda, F. Die Quadratur der Hyperbel, nach e. neuen Methode berechnet. Graz: Styria. 2 M.

Solms-Laubach, H. Graf zu. Einleitung in die Paläophytologie vom botanischen Standpunkt aus. Leipzig: Felix. 17 M.

Zopf, W. Üb. einige niedere Algenpilze (Phycomyceten) u. e. neue Methode, ihre Keime aus dem Wasser zu isoliren. Halle: Niemeyer. 2 M. 40 Pf.

PHILOLOGY, ETC.

Barwinski, B. Quaestiones ad Dracontium et Orestis tragoediam pertinentes. Quaestio I. De genere dicendi. Göttingen: Vandenhoeck. 2 M.

Bock, K. Die Syntax der Pronomina u. Numeralia in König Alfreds Orosius. Göttingen: Vandenhoeck. 1 M.

Busche, C. Observationes criticae in Euripidis Troades. Göttingen: Vandenhoeck. 80 Pf.

Einenkel, K. Streifzüge durch die mittelengl. Syntax unter besonderer Berücksicht. der Sprache Chaucer's. Münster-i.-W.: Schöningh. 4 M.

Elfes, A. Aristotelis doctrina de mente humana ex commentariorum graecorum sententiis eruta. Pars 1. Alexandri Aphrodisiensis et Joannis grammatici Philoponi commentationes continens. Bonn: Strauss. 2 M.

Steiger, K. De versuum paeonicorum et dochmiacorum apud poetas graecos usu ac ratione. Leipzig: Fock. 1 M.

CORRESPONDENCE.

HOCCLEVE'S "LETTER OF CUPIDE."

Cambridge: Oct. 12, 1887.

There is an interesting allusion to Chaucer in Hoccleve's "Letter of Cupide," which is much obscured by a singularly corrupt reading in the black-letter editions. I quote from the edition of 1561 of Chaucer's Works, stanza 46 of the poem, on fol. 328, back:

> "In my legende of natures maie men finde,
> Who so liketh therein for to rede," &c.

As I lately re-read these lines, it struck me at once that the word *natures* is ridiculous. Cupid is the speaker, so that *my* refers to him. Obviously Cupid's "legend of natures" ought to be "legend of martyrs"; for Chaucer speaks of the Legend of Good Women as the "Seintes legende of Cupide," or, as we should now say, Cupid's Legend of Saints. The good women were saints and martyrs in the cause of love. The title "Incipit legenda Cleopatrie *martiris*" suggests the right word at once.

But all guessing is evil till it be certainly confirmed. Being at Oxford, I took a short and easy way of settling the question at once. MS. Fairfax 16 contains a very fair copy of the poem; so I repaired to the Bodleian Library to see what I could find. Accordingly, in the course of the copy in that MS. (which begins at fol. 38, back), I quickly found the lines—

> "In my legende of martres men may fynde,
> Who so that lyketh therein for to rede,
> That oothe in no behest may no man bynde,"
> &c.

whereby the question is thus definitely settled.

The whole force of the context now appears. For the two preceding stanzas discuss the behaviour of Jason to Medea, and of Aeneas to Dido, the very subjects which are so fully treated in the Legend aforesaid.

Walter W. Skeat.

DANTE, OROSIUS, AND ALEXANDER THE GREAT.

Melbourne, Victoria: August 30, 1887.

Among the tyrants placed by Dante in the seventh circle of hell we find two belonging to the world of the ancients—Alexander and Dionysius (*Inf.* xii. 107). The latter is generally recognised to be the tyrant of Syracuse; but there is a divergence of opinion as to the identity of Alexander. The commentators are divided between Alexander the Great, and the Thessalian tyrant, Alexander of Pherae.

As regards Alexander the Great, it is objected that Dante would not condemn to a place in the "stream of boiling blood" a man of whom he speaks with admiration both in the *De Monarchia* and in the *Convito*. But this objection is hardly a serious one; since Dante is not always consistent with himself in his estimate of historical personages, his tendency being to regard them rather as types than as men.

Alexander of Pherae, on the other hand, was scarcely famous enough to be recognised simply as Alexander, without any further description; and in the absence of any other evidence, the natural assumption is that Dante is speaking of Alexander the Great,

> "The conqueroure,
> That conqueryt Babilonys tour,
> And all this warld off lenth and breid
> In XII yher, throw his douchty deid."

The expressions, "proles vesana Philippi" and "felix praedo," applied by Lucan to Alexander the Great, are generally quoted as sufficient justification for Dante's condemnation of the latter. But Dante had stronger grounds for his opinion than this. His knowledge of ancient history, as is well known, was very largely derived from Orosius. Now it is remarkable—and I have not seen the fact noticed elsewhere—that Alexander the Great is repeatedly branded by Orosius as bloodthirsty and cruel. For instance, he describes him (lib. iii., cap. vii.) as "Alexander Magnus, magnus vere ille gurges miseriarum, atque atrocissimus turbo totius Orientis"; and says of him (lib. iii., cap. xviii.), "humani sanguinis insaturabilis, sive hostium sive etiam sociorum, recentem tamen semper sitiebat cruorem"; and, again (lib. iii., cap. xxiii.), "per duodecim annos trementem sub se orbem ferro pressit." After recording that he died at Babylon, "adhuc sanguinem sitiens," Orosius ends up with a long apostrophe on the ruin and misery brought by him upon the whole world.

With this tremendous invective before one, it is no longer possible to wonder at Dante's assigning to Alexander the Great a place in hell, alongside of the execrated Azzolino, in

> "La riviera del sangue, in la qual bolle
> Qual che per violenza in altrui noccia."

It may not be out of place here to note that Dante was evidently also indebted to Orosius for his estimate of Sardanapalus (lib. i., cap. xix.); and for the story of Cyrus and Tomyris (lib. ii., cap. vii.); as well as for what he says of Semiramis (*Inf.* v. 58)—in fact he has in this case followed Orosius (lib. i., cap iv.; lib. ii., cap. iii.) so closely as to practically justify the reading *succedette* instead of *sugger dette*, which has somewhat strangely found favour of late.

Paget Toynbee.

PROF. ZIMMER AND FIND MAC CUMAIL.

London: Oct. 8, 1887.

The amazing blunder which Mr. Standish H. O'Grady has pointed out in to-day's Academy—Prof. Zimmer's translation of *a phinn* ("O pen!"), by "O Fingal!"—reminds me of a similar specimen of the professor's scholarship, which also occurs in the *Göttingische Gelehrte Anzeigen* for March 1, 1887.

In p. 185 of that journal, Prof. Zimmer prints from a Bodleian MS. (Rawl. B. 502) two short poems, one describing winter, the other summer. In the first poem, after referring to the cold, the storm, the floods, the drops as big as the bosses of shields, the poet declares, with intentional exaggeration, that every snowflake is as large as the white fleece of a wether (*mét molt-*

chrocann find cech slamm), and says, in the third stave:

"Na helta ní[co]sta díu
snechta finn fír doroich tóin,"

that is, "the herds, they have no shelter: white pure snow comes up to the breech."

Prof. Zimmer, mistaking the common adjective *finn* for the name of the hero whom he (following Macpherson) calls Fingal, prints the last line thus:

"snechtai Find fír doroich tōin,"

but does not tell us what we are to understand by "snows of true Find," or how the singular verb *doroich* comes to have a plural nominative. Mr. Dick was unable to keep King Charles I. out of his memorial. Prof. Zimmer has a similar difficulty with Find. At p. 173 of his article he gives us as the title of one of the Ossianic poems in the Franciscan MS. of the Dialogue of the Ancient Men, *Is fada anocht anoil Finn*. The MS. has (*teste* S. H. O'Grady) *Is fada anocht an-Oilfinn*, that is, "It is long to-night in Elphin," a well-known place in the county Roscommon, so called from the white rock (*ail finn*) near which S. Patrick is said to have built a church.. But, to return to the poem in Rawl. B. 502, Prof. Zimmer calls it a "dreistrophige Gedicht." The poem really contains four stanzas, the first and finest of which he has mistaken for, and printed as, prose. It runs thus in the Bodleian codex:

"Fuitt cobráth.
ismo indonenn arcach.
isob cachetrice án
isloch lan cach áth."

"Cold till Doom. Greater is the storm upon everyone. Every fiery furrow is a river. Every ford is a lake." In the copy of this poem, preserved in the Book of Leinster, p. 208 a, the first quatrain runs thus: "Fúit cobráth | rodáil indonend arcách | isáth cach n-ettrigi n-án | *ocus* is lind lán cach n-áth, "Cold till Doom the storm hath dealt out on everyone: every fiery furrow is a ford: and every ford is a full riverpool." In his edition of the other quatrains there are six inaccuracies, whereof (as Lord Coke would say) this little taste shall suffice. The third quatrain begins thus: *Meit cuithi cach lattrach* "As big as a pit is every puddle." Prof. Zimmer, not understanding the common ligature for *att*, prints the last word *laathrach*, which of course is mere gibberish. I do not challenge Prof. Zimmer to translate the rest of these stanzas. It would be cruel to do so. He obviously does not understand one word of them.

In the same article (pp. 181-83), Prof. Zimmer gives some extracts from another Bodleian codex (Rawl. B. 512). This is the way he reads the title of a piece beginning on fol. 101 a: *Incip(it) dibaile inscail inso arslicht hisenlib(ur) Duibdaleitius .i. coarpa Pat(raic)*. Anyone who knows anything of Middle-Irish will see that this also is mere gibberish. The MS. has, *luce clarius* (to use one of Prof. Zimmer's pet phrases) Incip*it* diBaile *in*Scail inso arslicht hsenlib*uir* Duib da leithi .i. co*m*arpa Pat*raic*, that is, "This is the *incipit* ('beginning') of 'the Champion's Frenzy,' according to (the) old book of Dub-dá-leithe, *i.e.*, a successor of Patrick." Prof. Zimmer has here committed no less than five errors. Not understanding the digraph *hs* for *sh* or dotted *s*, and not knowing that the nominal prep. *arslicht* governs the genitive, he has, without notice, inserted an *i* after *h*, thus manufacturing the preposition *hi* (= *in*), and then made *libur* a dative governed by his fraudulent *hi*. Mistaking *h* with *i* subscript for *i*, followed by the compendium for *us*, he has then produced his wonderful genitive *Duibdaleitius*, where good Irish is made into bad Latin, and three words are printed as one. Lastly, he has overlooked the remains of the curvilinear *m* over the *o* of *coarpa*. It is altogether an instructive instance of the professor's knowledge of Irish palaeography and grammar. The same article furnishes other such instances. Thus, in p. 184, we have:

Prof. Zimmer.	The MS. (Rawl. B. 502.)
1. 4. Cerbail	fo. 47 b. 2 Cerbaill
8. Geinemain . . . Cumaill	70 b. 2 Gen*emain* . . . Hum*ail*
15. Orguin	73 b. 2 Orgguin
33. Cainech	60 a. 1 Cainnech
34. innorthainnse . . . Cainech	innorthainse . . . Cainnech
42. icorthi	59 b. 2 icoirthi

So much for his skill in reading an easy Irish MS. His knowledge of Irish grammar is further exemplified by his quotation (p. 183, l. 23) of *laithiu* as an Old-Irish *accusative plural*. Now, *laithe* (day) is a neuter stem in *io*, and its acc. pl. is *laithe*. What would be thought of the Latin scholarship of a man who should give *gaudios* as the acc. pl. of *gaudium*? This illustration is meant for those who have learned Latin, not for Prof. Zimmer. Here are specimens of *his* latinity: "e codice Milano" (*Glossae Hibernicae*, 1881, p. 55 n.); "ad significandum quod filii Israel non intelligerent mysteria et quod esset velamen incredulitatis inter eorum cor" (*ibid.*, p. 99 note). How a man like Mommsen must shudder when he reads such stuff, and remembers that it has been published with the help of the illustrious Academy of which he is now the most illustrious member! In the passage above referred to (*ni sluindfid dou có cenn .L. laithiu*) *laithiu* is a corrupt Middle-Irish *genitive* plural.

The blunders now pointed out are not comparable, either in number or absurdity, to those which Prof. Zimmer has made in the new double number of Kuhn's *Zeitschrift für vergl. Sprachforschung*. But these require and deserve a separate letter. WHITLEY STOKES.

"CAVING IN."

London: Oct. 9, 1887.

Mr. Mayhew, in the ACADEMY of June 25 last, impugns the explanation of the above expression accepted by Prof. Skeat, Mr. Palmer and myself, as signifying the falling in of a mass of earth from the side of a cutting, by the metaphor of a cow dropping its calf—a natural metaphor surely for the separation of a limited portion from a larger mass. So a small island that seems to have broken off from the mainland of the Isle of Man is called the Calf of Man. And Mr. Gibbs, in *Notes and Queries* (fourth series, No. xii.), remarks that the Arctic glaciers are said to *calve* when a portion of the sea-cliff breaks off and falls into the sea, while the *calf* floats away in the shape of an iceberg. Mr. Peacock, in his glossary of Manley and Corringham, Lincolnshire, seems to overlook the true force of the metaphor when he explains "cauf" as "a breakage in a bank or wall." The story by which he illustrates the word in *Notes and Queries* (fourth series, No. xii.) clearly shows that the Lincolnshire navvies, who used the word, applied it to the mass of falling earth, and not to the breakage of the bank. When a small boy, he says, he was watching some "bankers" engaged in widening a drain. Suddenly three of the men jumped out of the cutting, shouting out, "Tak' heed, lads, there's a cawlf a comin'." "In this part of the world," says Mr. Peacock, "we all say *calved in*, never *caved in*." Precisely in the same way the Dutch has *kalven*, to calve, and *inkalven*, s'ébouler, to cave in (De Bo, West Flanders Dictionary.) "De gracht *kalft in*," the ditch caves in. De Vries, in his great Dutch Dictionary, cites *afkalven* in the same sense, signifying first to calve, and then to cave in, to break away, used often of the breaking away of embankments. But he maintains (as Mr. Mayhew informs us) that *afkalven* in this latter sense is a totally different word, being derived, not from *kalf*, a calf, but from *kalf*, a corrupt form of *kalve*, meaning the bare surface of the ground, an older form of which was *kaeluwe*. Resting, then, on the authority of De Vries, the theory by which Mr. Mayhew would replace our derivation is that the Lincolnshire *cauf* (which is merely the local pronunciation of *calf*) is directly borrowed from the Dutch *kalf* = *kalve* = *kaluwe*, "callow," "the earth on the surface"; and that the expression *cave in* is borrowed from the Dutch *inkalfen*, used literally of the falling in of the surface. To this it may be replied that *cauf* was never used either in Lincolnshire or in any other English dialect in the sense of sward; and in the outcry of the "bankers" whom young Peacock was watching, it certainly meant to signify the falling mass of earth from which they were escaping. And, in the next place, *inkalven*, with the English equivalent, *to cave in*, distinctly signifies the falling in of the subjacent earth, and not of the surface. Hence the corruption of the term in ordinary speech to the modern form of *cave in*, so as to give the word an apparent derivation from the *cave* or hollow left in the yielding bank or cliff. To *cave in* is essentially to give way below. No doubt, when a cliff caves in, the surface commonly though not necessarily, sinks with it; but that is a secondary aspect of the phenomenon. The primary manifestation, of such urgent interest to those engaged in banking, is the detachment of a mass of earth falling upon them. It was of such an impending fall that the "bankers" meant to give notice when they exclaimed that a *calf* was coming.

De Vries can, of course, have no certain knowledge from which of the two senses of *kalf* the verb *inkalven* derives its meaning. It is mere matter of inference from considerations as to which of the two gives the better account of the actual signification of the verb. Thus far, Mr. Mayhew has adduced nothing which shakes my faith in the explanation of the expression from the metaphor of a cow dropping its calf.

H. WEDGWOOD.

AN ISOLATED PEOPLE IN SWITZERLAND.

Malvern Oct. 10, 1887.

In the Val d'Anniviers, which lies south of the Rhone Valley, having the Turtmanthal above it and the Val d'Hérens (often called the Evolena Valley) below it, I found this summer a very marked type of people. They have dark hair and eyes, the colour being black rather than brown; the shape of the face is square, with a well-developed forehead, the head rather round. They are of moderate height, short rather than tall, with square-built figures. They are very friendly and bright in their manner, greeting the stranger in a pleasant way which contrasts with the somewhat churlish reserve of the ordinary Swiss peasant. They talk a very peculiar dialect, but I was not able to learn any words.

Their houses are built of rough logs, dovetailed and morticed in a rude fashion, and they are without the carved ornamentation to be seen elsewhere in Switzerland. There is something almost savage in the simplicity of the buildings. I noticed an outside flight of steps which was hewn out of a solid tree-trunk. The houses and barns are almost invariably raised on logs to a height of two or three feet above the ground, and the lowest story forms a barn or stable, often without any windows. The villagers lead a sort of nomadic life, moving from one habitation to another, each family possessing two or more dwellings; and I found whole villages without an inhabitant.

There is a traditional belief that these people

are a remnant of the Huns. But is it not more probable that they are a Moorish or Arab race, who have crossed over one of the passes from the south side of the Rhaetian Alps, where many traces of them are to be recognised, and who have remained, with comparatively little intermixture of blood, shut in by the high walls of this narrow valley? And may not the name of the adjacent Turt*man*thal point to a similar origin? G. E. Knight.

APPOINTMENTS FOR NEXT WEEK.

Monday, Oct. 17, 8 p.m. Royal Academy: "The Bones of the Human Body," III., by Prof. John Marshall.
Thursday, Oct. 20. 5 p.m. Hellenic Society: "Two Vases from Cyprus," by Mr. A. S. Murray.
Friday, Oct. 21, 8 p.m. Royal Academy: "The Bones of the Human Body," III., by Prof. John Marshall. 8 p.m. New Shakspere Society: "A Few Words on Henley-in-Arden, Bidford, Stratford-on-Avon, and Shakspere's Country," by Dr. F. J. Furnivall; "Some Notes on Criticisms of 'The Merchant of Venice,'" by the Rev. H. C. Beeching.

SCIENCE.

BOTANICAL PUBLICATIONS OF THE CLARENDON PRESS.

Comparative Morphology and Biology of the Fungi, Mycetozoa, and Bacteria. By A. de Bary. English translation by Henry E. F. Garnsey. Revised by J. Bayley Balfour. (Clarendon Press.)

Lectures on the Physiology of Plants. By Julius von Sachs. Translated by H. Marshall Ward. (Clarendon Press.)

Annals of Botany. Vol. I., No. 1. Edited by J. Bayley Balfour, S. H. Vines, and W. G. Farlow. (Clarendon Press.)

The appearance nearly together of these three publications from the Clarendon Press cannot fail to suggest to all interested in the progress of botanical studies in this country that a turning point has been reached in that department which deals with the structure, the development, and the functions of plants. On the one hand, we have two good translations of German standard books of the highest excellence; on the other, the first part of a journal destined to contain the fruits of new work largely inspired and stimulated by the labour and the example of such men as the authors of the translated books. It has been said that the days of hack translators of scientific books are numbered; and to those who seek a sign it must surely be apparent that this first number of the *Annals of Botany* is the herald of a state of things in the progress of botany in this country when translation may be well-nigh dispensed with.

It has already been pointed out in the Academy that a great deep of ignorance and apathy was broken up by the translation twelve years ago of Sachs's textbook. That translation had its faults; but they were far outweighed by the foresight of its authors, who doubtless undertook the work less for the actual good it would do by itself, than as a foundation for future independent research. The era of translations from German then set in; and it must be confessed that among the good, the harmless and necessary books there appeared such as had far better been left in their original German obscurity. These first fruits of the rejuvenescence of physiology and morphology in the country of Stephen Hales and Robert Brown have been received, each on its appearance (I speak only of the better sort), with a rejoicing which showed more exuberance than judgment. Some have been dignified with such descriptions as "epoch marking" and the like, which, it may be, the originals were in the history of botany, but so far as its progress in this country is concerned they have been but as milestones by the way. Far more noteworthy has been the research stimulated by the new movement. It has steadily grown in bulk, and has at last reached that condition of abundance and fertility that demands an additional outlet of its own. Perhaps one may be now permitted to mention the word "epoch," which the impatient and enthusiastic have been making so free with in advance.

Prof. de Bary's *Vergleichende Morphologie*, &c., was published in 1884, and then proved a very welcome contribution to botanical science. Though in name a second edition of his *Morphologie und Physiologie*, &c., published eighteen years before, it was in reality a new book. These intervening years had been so fruitful in research that an entire rearrangement of the great mass of material became necessary. Not only was the bulk of it enormous, but there were entangled with it new views of the utmost importance, and points of controversy requiring a power in their elucidation possessed by no man in Germany nor out of it in so high a degree as by the distinguished author who undertook the labour. Of his success no one has ventured to doubt. The more the book has been used and put to the proof, the greater has its worth appeared. It is a book of the kind that always will deserve translation whenever and wherever such may appear. Mr. Garnsey, who has already done the same service for Goebel's *Outlines*, has performed the labour of translation in a most painstaking and accurate fashion; and he has kept his language free from the translator's faults, which have disfigured not a few English editions of German text-books. Aided by the judgment of Prof. Bayley Balfour, he has produced a version that loses little of the force of the original. A translation invites fault-finding in a way of its own; and I can hardly say more in favour of this one than confess a happy desire to abstain from the process, since it would be concerned with minor points.

The translation of Prof. Sachs's *Vorlesungen* into English has been made with the fidelity to be expected from Prof. Marshall Ward. The original is a series of lectures on the physiology of plants—a subject full of difficulty to all but the most accomplished lecturers. It is nevertheless one of the most lucidly and forcibly written treatises to be found in botanical literature. Prof. Ward has not spared himself in the effort to reproduce the book worthily, and it may be said at once that he has succeeded so far as a faithful translator may hope. It would be easy to select passages where so competent a man as Prof. Ward would have done better to give himself "plenty of rope," even with the certainty before his eyes that the same "rope" would be turned to other uses by critics—albeit of no great vigour of arm. But the excellence of his performance disposes one to be more than critical. The book is intended for students and cultivated readers, and the form of lectures has been adopted as better fitted for the purpose of clear exposition, free from all "the trammels of learned descriptions of apparatus," &c. Prof. Sachs has found it advisable to introduce a system of physiological organography in place of formal morphology to suit this purpose as well; but I venture to think his practice will be received in this country with considerable misgiving. His object is clear enough to all botanists who know the subject, and in the attempt he has the sympathy of all but the timid. But the effect of it on "the students and cultivated readers," to whom the book is addressed, is another matter—which I would gladly be convinced that I am timid in regarding as fraught with dangers. In spite of this there is no book which may be more unhesitatingly recommended to all who desire a thorough knowledge of the physiology of plants. It is the work, not only of the greatest living authority on the subject, but of one who is at the same time an unrivalled master in the exposition of it.

The first part of the *Annals of Botany* gives good promise of a useful future. The original papers are good, solid pieces of work of a kind that is happily becoming more abundant in this country. The notes are an attractive feature, and it is to be hoped that workers will use this channel for publishing those minor observations which too commonly are left in note-books. It is pleasant to be able to point to the fact that the only contributor of both an original paper and a note is a lady—Miss Agnes Calvert. Finally, there are forty-one closely-printed pages containing a record of current literature carefully prepared. As in the two volumes previously noticed, the printing and the illustrations are excellent, and in every way worthy of the Clarendon Press. It is to be sincerely hoped that a long and vigorous career is before the *Annals*, and that it will have the effect desired by its founders of stimulating research in this country and in America.

George Murray.

TWO BOOKS ON HEBREW PHILOLOGY.

Notes on the Hebrew Text of the Book of Genesis. By G. J. Spurrell. (Oxford: Clarendon Press.) Revision by a scholar of Prof. Driver's eminence must confer a certain value upon any work. Doubtless it has enabled Mr. Spurrell to avoid many of the errors incident to first attempts at scholastic authorship. To students ignorant of German—we would fain hope a rapidly decreasing body — his book may prove helpful, though he is prone to rely a little blindly upon his German oracles, and, as a consequence, to reproduce their mistakes. His remarks on the origin of the Hebrew relative particles (p. 67) are quite erroneous. The Assyrian *shā* proves that the corresponding Hebrew term is *not* "a fragment of *'ashèr*." The two former are not connected at all, except as synonyms are connected; and the German suggestions cited in the note are ridiculous, though it be flat blasphemy against the dogma of German omniscience to allege it. In Assyrian, the relative *shā* is the accusative of *shū*, the demonstrative and personal pronoun "that," "he"; and this connexion between the relative and the demonstrative pronoun finds its parallel in Ethiopic (*zè*, *zati* = Heb. *zeh*, *zoth*, "this"; Ethiop. *za* "who," as in *zawahabana*, "which he gave us"; Ethiop. *ellu*, "these"; Hebrew *'elleh* "these"; Ethop. *ella*, "who.") In the same way our word "that" is both demonstrative and relative. *'Ashèr*, on the other hand, is to

be compared with the Babylonio-Assyrian *ashru, constr, ăshar*, "place"; Aram. *'athrā, 'athar*. Mr. Spurrell has worked hard with his German friends, but an original insight into the principles of grammar is not his strong point. In the note on *bereshith* it might have been said at once that adverbs consisting of a noun with prefixed *be, ke*, or *le*, are naturally anarthrous. The note on the accentuation of the passage is of little value. Attention should have been called to the position of Athnach, which lays stress on the mode of origination. "Originally *Elohim* [and not another] *created* [not made in ordinary human fashion] the heavens and the earth." The other meaning of *reshith*, which it bears in Deut. xxxiii., 21, should have been mentioned; and Josh. iii. 15 *sq.*, which formally corresponds almost clause for clause with the whole passage, might have been referred to in favour of Rashi's interpretation. A reference to the *beri'ah* of Num. xvi. 30 would have illustrated the force of *bārā*. *Shamaim* is certainly not "a dual" any more than *maim*. The two nouns are plurals of unused **shamai*, **mai* (like *sadai, e.g.*), formed like *nokrim* by simple addition of *m*; *cf.* the Ethiopic singulars *samai* and *mai*. Hypothetical forms like יְצִיא ought to have the asterisk, or some other distinguishing mark; otherwise they will inevitably mislead beginners into substituting them for the forms they are meant to explain. The Syriac root *rehef* signifies "to pity" and "to love"; *cf.* its use in such phrases as *rehme weruhofo, merah'mon wamrah'fon*. What is said about *'adam* might have been made more complete by reference to the Babylonio-Assyrian *dadmê*, "inhabited regions," "dwelling places," as opposed to the wilderness; and *admânu*, the seat or abode of a god; *cf.*, Isa. vi., 11, *me'en yosheb . . . me'en 'adam*. Something might have been added (p. 15) about the meaning of "in his own image." The text seems to define it by the clause *zakar uneqebah bara 'otham*. The bisexual aspect of deity is characteristic of Semitic religions; and if this be the original sense of the passage, it is, *pro tanto*, an argument for the antiquity of the account in its earliest form. Mr. Spurrell will do better than this, though this, in its kind, is not bad.

Einleitung in den Talmud. Von Hermann L. Strack. (Leipzig: Hinrichs. London: Williams & Norgate.) This is a separately printed extract from vol. xviii. of the new edition of Herzog's well-known *Real-Encyclopädie für Protestantische Theologie und Kirche*. Need we say that the name of the author is a pledge of a thorough and unprejudiced treatment of this difficult subject? No attempt is made to be interesting. Those whom the theme itself does not interest need not knock at this door. Hence alone it has been possible to condense within seventy-six large octavo pages all such preliminary information and bibliographical material as every one needs who either studies or even refers to the Talmud. The vagueness with which English writers refer to the Talmud is a proof how much such a work as this is needed at home. May our theological teachers and examiners take the lesson to heart, and see that the road to honour starts henceforth from the German dictionary! Why not, seeing that German encyclopaedists have taken a lesson from ourselves, and shown themselves, sometimes at least, as capable of condensation and arrangement as their French and English colleagues? Prof. Strack's arrangement of his material is what it should be. He begins with the explanation of important technical terms, such as "Mishna," "Baraita," "Tosefta," &c.; then he proceeds to the order of the parts and tractates of the Mishna, and gives a short but useful sketch of their contents, and a brief notice of the Aboth of Rabbi Nathan and the "small tractates" (a postscript on p. 76 refers to Schechter's important edition of the former treatise in two distinct recensions, 1887). He then proceeds to the history of the Talmud and its text, noticing first of all the rise of the Soferim or "scribes" in the Babylonian exile, whose studies were not confined to prophetic literature, but were largely occupied with the Pentateuch legislation. Few scholars will question any of the statements in this first paragraph, even though English prejudices may be shocked by the candid recognition of the post-Isaianic origin of Isa. xl.-lxvi. In this portion of the "Introduction," we notice Dr. Strack's well-known opposition to some of the statements of the acute Jewish scholar, Dr. M. Joel. Valuable information is appended on the manuscripts and editions of the Talmud. After a chronological list of the great doctors of law comes a too concise section, headed "Zur Charakteristik." Dr. Strack seeks to promote a more moderate and dispassionate view of the Talmud than is as yet prevalent in Germany. But could he not have set forth briefly the varied interest and importance of the historical study of the Talmud? The concluding part is bibliographical; and we heartily thank the author for limiting his notices to the most valuable books, especially from the point of view of those not themselves Talmudists. The printing must have been difficult; but why give the admirable J. J. Wetstein a double *t*?

SOME BOOKS ON GEOLOGY.

The Student's Handbook of Historical Geology. By A. J. Jukes-Browne. (Bell.) By "Historical Geology," Mr. Jukes-Browne means the history of the earth as revealed by its rocks; but as the moderate compass of his volume rendered it necessary to exclude, so far as possible, references to foreign geology, the book comes to be substantially an historical account of the British area. Fortunately, the British area contains representatives of almost every formation, from the oldest archaean rocks to the comparatively modern deposits of prehistoric times, so that it is only in exceptional cases, as in discussing the triassic and miocene periods, that it becomes necessary to supplement our record by reference to the fuller chronicle preserved in the continental strata. It is evident that "historical geology" includes much more than a description of the stratigraphical relations of the various sedimentary deposits and the associated igneous rocks. It deals also with the forms of life that peopled the earth in the past, and with the restoration of the physical features of the earth's surface at successive epochs of its history. The geographical story of the British Islands has been told so often and so well that little novelty is to be expected in a text-book devoted to this topic. Nevertheless, Mr. Jukes-Browne offers some suggestions well worthy of careful study. His treatment of the cretaceous system should command especial attention, since his work as an officer of the Geological Survey has lain so largely among the rocks of this group. Here he follows the usual classification in placing the Wealden at the base of the system; but this arrangement, though sanctioned by high authority, leads to the separation of the Wealden from the closely related fresh-water beds of the Purbeck series. Mr. Jukes-Browne has prepared us, in previous writings, for his substitution of the term "Vectian" for the old and inappropriate "lower greensand"; and it is to be hoped that this new term—suggested by the characteristic development of these rocks in the Isle of Wight—will come into general use. The eocene and oligocene groups are united under the term "Hantonian," in allusion to their occurrence in the Hampshire basin; while the pliocene and pleistocene series are associated under the common name of "Icenian," in reference to their development in East Anglia. As an example of the author's conscientiousness in bringing his work well up to date, we note that he alludes to Mr. Clement Reid's recent determination of the pliocene age of the Lenham beds. Altogether Mr. Jukes-Browne's work—which should be regarded as a companion to his previously issued *Handbook of Physical and Structural Geology*—may be safely recommended as an excellent manual for the student—well-written and well-illustrated, trustworthy in detail, and exceptionally moderate in price.

The Geology of England and Wales. With Notes on the Physical Features of the Country. By H. B. Woodward. Second Edition. (Philip.) When the first edition of this work appeared, it received a very favourable notice in the Academy. After an interval of more than ten years a new edition has been called for, and Mr. Woodward has responded to the call by producing what is practically a new work. The value of the earlier edition was officially recognised by the Geological Society on the occasion of the author's reception of an award at the hands of Prof. Bonney, as president The present edition, however, is in every way greatly in advance of its predecessor. Not only has a large amount of additional matter been introduced, but some marked improvements are noticeable in the general plan of the book. Of these improvements one of the most useful is the insertion of copious references to original authorities. The number and range of these references sufficiently indicate the labour expended upon the preparation of the present edition. It would indeed be difficult to point to any paper of importance on the geology of any part of England or of Wales that has escaped the author's notice. But while Mr. Woodward has thus diligently compiled from the best and latest authorities, he has also inserted in his work much original matter, the result of personal observation over a large part of Southern Britain. The author's fulness of knowledge, his conciseness of expression, and his independence of classification conspire to give his treatise in very high position in our geological literature. It is accompanied by an admirable geological map, drawn by Mr. J. G. Goodchild, and very neatly printed in colours.

Outlines of the Geology of Northumberland and Durham. By G. A. Lebour. (Newcastle: Lambert.) Eight years have passed since Prof. Lebour published his *Outlines of the Geology of Northumberland*—a work primarily intended for the use of his classes in the Newcastle College of Physical Science. In preparing a new edition of this useful book, he has extended its scope by including the county of Durham, and even the north-eastern part of Yorkshire, in order to say something about the important mining district of Cleveland. So far, therefore, as Northumberland is concerned, the present work is a second edition; while so far as Durham and Cleveland are concerned it is an entirely new work. On opening the book, it is evident that it represents a marked advance on its predecessor, if only in the plates and woodcuts that meet the eye. A small geological map is also inserted; but the distribution of the several formations is indicated only by a system of shading and conventional signs. Such a method, always more or less confusing, has only cheapness to recommend it; and it seems a pity that a coloured map could not have been introduced. The text, however, is written with the clearness and accuracy which might be expected from the author's intimate knowledge of the country he describes, and from his long experience in the field and in the class room. Any geologist wishing to explore the stretch of country between the Tweed and the Tees will find

Prof. Lebour's little book to be as neat a guide as he could desire.

Terra. By A. A. Anderson. (Reeves & Turner.) Mr. Anderson seems to have been a great traveller; but his scientific notions are unfortunately of a very crude character. He is under the impression that he has discovered a new motion of the earth—a second axial rotation, "hitherto unsuspected"—and can thereby explain the origin of earthquakes and other great physical changes in the earth's crust. By transferring the poles to what are now equatorial regions, he alters the shape of the earth, producing a flattening at the new poles, and an equatorial bulge passing through the old polar regions; and by these disturbances he seeks to explain those elevations and depressions, the effects of which are familiar enough to geologists.

CORRESPONDENCE.

λάω FREMERE, ETC.

Stroud.

The verb λάω, according to old authorities, is said to be synonymous with βλέπω, and Passow renders it by "anblicken, erblicken." As an old epic word it occurs in only three passages, viz., *Od.* 19, 229, 230, and Hom. *Merc.* 360. It is evident, however, that, in the above passages in the *Odyssey*, this verb is capable of a more forcible construction than that of merely "seeing, beholding," &c. I propose, therefore, to offer the following as an explanation of the word. The form λάων seems to be parallel with λέων, and, following Leffmann's explanation of the latter, may be traced to an original *λάϝων. Further, the syllable λα-, as Prof. Sayce reminds me, may be referred to the sonant liquid; and this again may represent the vowel of the aorist of an earlier *λέϝω. The root of λάϝω would then be *$l_{\circ}u$ = Sanskrit *ru* "fremere, etc." E. SIBREE.

PHILOLOGY NOTES.

THE recent numbers of *Bursian's Jahresbericht* contain reports on Homer, Propertius, and Cicero's *Orations*, and Roman history and chronology, the latter by Dr. Schiller. Mr. Ellis's and Mr. Postgate's papers on Propertius are fully noticed.

Correction.—In the Rev. F. H. Woods' letter on "The Finnic Origin of the Aryans," in the ACADEMY of last week, p. 239, col. 2, *for* "their" (line 36) *read* "these phonetic changes"; and *for* "*veri*" (line 2 from bottom) *read* "*vesi*."

FINE ART.

GREAT SALE of PICTURES, at reduced prices (Engravings, Chromos, and Oleographs), handsomely framed. Everyone about to purchase pictures should pay a visit. Very suitable for wedding and Christmas presents.—GEO. REES, 115, Strand, near Waterloo-bridge.

ART BOOKS.

THE value of Mr. Gomme's last volumes of the "Gentleman's Magazine Library," containing the articles in that ever-to-be venerated periodical on *Romano-British Remains*, is enhanced by a preface, criticising, in moderate but adverse language, the opinions of Mr. Coote and Mr. Seebohm on the manner in which Roman influences moulded the life of the communities succeeding them in the occupation of England. The question can never adequately be settled until a complete record has been constructed of the Roman remains which have been found in our country; and the compiler, in reproducing the paper of an antiquarian student—a paper which was published so far back as 1795—urging the preparation of a map "accurately and completely illustrative of the Roman topography of this island," drops a tear over the circumstance that the index of places where traces of the Romans have been revealed, which the Index Society has long promised, remains a promise still. Mr. Gomme must be of good courage and persevere in his undertaking. The very volume on which he is now engaged will speed the publication of such an index; and if the Index Society has not yet fulfilled its undertaking, the delay must be attributed to the number of vehicles which its directors would fain drive, and the difficulty in literature, as well as in politics, of forcing six omnibuses at a time through Temple Bar. He is well justified in putting forward in his introduction, as a crowning proof of the value of these articles, the fact that Huebner, in his exhaustive work on Latin inscriptions in Great Britain, obtains nearly all his early information from the pages of the *Gentleman's Magazine*. Such a tribute to the excellence of the antiquarian papers which he has grouped together in these two volumes cannot be estimated too highly. The first describes the discoveries in England in the various counties arranged in alphabetical order as far as Shropshire. The second finishes our own country, and includes the remains in Wales and Scotland. It also incorporates the notes in elucidation of this section of Mr. Gomme's labours.

Bryan's Dictionary of Painters and Engravers. New Edition. Parts 7 and 8. (George Bell.) These parts form the commencement of vol. ii., and we are glad to find that there is a decided improvement in the editing. Although Mr. Graves still retains his name alone upon the cover, we learn from an advertisement that Mr. Walter Armstrong has been associated with him in the editorship; and the effect of his collaboration is distinctly evident in a good many of the important articles which are signed W. A. Memlinc, Méryon, Morland, Palma Pesellino, are among the artists he has treated; and, although the space does not afford scope for more than an outline, it is sufficient to prove that he has consulted the latest authorities. There is still, however, need for improvement. Although Louis Leloir and Auguste Lançon are included, Bastien Lepage, a more important artist than either, is omitted; and surely a few lines might have been spared to Kenny Meadows. John Linnell is treated as if his strength lay rather in portrait than in landscape. In the article on John Landseer we read—"He devoted considerable attention to a series of engravings of animals after the great masters, which were afterwards published in a collected form"—a sentence from which few would gather that five of the designs were by his son Edwin, and all were engraved by his son Thomas, and that he wrote the letter-press himself. If under Licinio (Pordenone) it was thought necessary to mention the doubtful "Apostle" in the National Gallery, one example of Liberale da Verona should not have been omitted. Under Marinus de Zeeuw or Van Romerswale we are informed that the name Zeeuw "means simply the *sea-lander*." If such defects strike one on the surface, there may be worse below; but, as we said, the book is improving, and there is hope that the second volume may be much more valuable than the first.

Claude Gellée le Lorrain. By Owen J. Dullea. (Sampson Low.) This latest addition to "The Great Artist" series has been well and carefully compiled, and is very fairly illustrated with engravings, &c., from pictures, drawings, and etchings. Mr. Dullea compares with patience the different accounts of Sandrart and Baldinucci, and does not appear to have neglected any important authority upon the artist. All the known facts of Claude's life are arranged in a clear and connected narrative, the history of nearly all his pictures is traced, and a great deal of information is given about the "Liber Veritatis." In the appendix is given the artist's will, which was discovered by Lady Dilke, together with a list of the drawings in the "Liber Veritatis," and another of the pictures by Claude in public and private collections. We can sincerely recommend the book not only to the lovers of Claude, but to the lovers of Turner—especially to those of the latter who, owing to the teaching of Mr. Ruskin and his followers, have failed to appreciate the immense obligations of Turner to the great French artist, and are under the false impression that Claude was not an ardent student of nature.

Life and Nature Studies. By Hume Nisbet. (Sampson Low.) No doubt Mr. Nisbet has read his Ruskin, but he also seems to have read his Walt Whitman. His style is at all events like a strange mixture of both; while his spelling appears to be influenced by the example of our Transatlantic cousins, and his grammar to be peculiarly his own. We do not know which we like least of the three. We gather from various notes to the book, and quotations from laudatory press notices at the end of it, that Mr. Nisbet is young, that he resides in Edinburgh, where he practices as artist and art teacher. He has also published poems. We do not wish to discourage him. He is full of ardour, has high views of the mission of the artist, and evidently thinks he observes for himself; but he has begun to teach when he should still be learning. Among his many aphorisms is the following: "What is perfect and beautiful to you just now, before you begin to study, will buffet you in the eyes when you are trained." If Mr. Nisbet's intelligence develops as we hope it will, this book of his will "buffet him in the eyes" a good deal a few years hence. The lectures will buffet him as an art teacher, and the illustrations as an artist.

Table Decoration. By William Low. (Chapman & Hall) Mr. Low, the gardener of the Duke of Grafton, at Euston Hall, has evidently considerable taste in the now fashionable art of decorating the table with flowers. Without a good deal of imagination, it is not easy to realise how his tables looked when they were decorated according to his designs; but the descriptions are ample, and the designs are all given in black and white, and both will no doubt be found very useful in giving hints to others.

THE SOCIETE DE L'ART ANCIEN EN BELGIQUE.

THE issue to the members for the third year comprises a considerable variety of objects. The earliest in point of date are a collection of Frankish and Merovingian ornaments of the fifth and sixth centuries—from the Archaeological Museum at Namur, the treasury of the Church of Our Lady at Tongres, the Diocesan Museum at Liége, and the collection of Mr. Eugene Poswick—reproduced in chromo-lithography.

Secondly, the reliquary bust of Pope St. Alexander, martyred in 117, now in the Museum of Antiquities at Brussels, but formerly in the Benedictine Monastery at Stavelot. This reliquary, here reproduced by an admirable phototype of E. Aubry, of Brussels, was executed by order of Abbot Wibald, who, on April 13, 1145, enshrined in it the skull of the saint, together with several fragments of clothing stained with his blood. The bust, of silver, rests upon an altar-shaped coffer, supported on four feet, the two foremost of which are formed by wiverns. Each side of the coffer is adorned with three enamelled plaques, reproduced in full size. Those in front represent St. Alexander and his two companions, St. Eventius and St. Theodolus. The two former are vested in chasubles, and have a pastoral staff in the left hand. The latter, in dalmatic, has a book.

The pope has a low mitre. The plaques on the other three sides have half-length female figures representing Divine wisdom and eight virtues holding scrolls, on which are inscribed the beatitudes. The spaces between these plaques, the top of the coffer, and the collar of the saint's vestment, are adorned with cabochons and jewels.

The fourth plate reproduces five plaques of the thirteenth century. The largest of these, now in the Museum of Namur, is adorned with branches of foliage and fruit, enclosing within their curves flowers and monsters. The other four, from the shrine of St. Remacle, at Stavelot, present most exquisitely designed foliage in gold, on a ground of oxidised copper, executed by the method described in chapter lxx. of the *Diversarium Artium Schedula* of Theophilus.

Plates V. to VIII. represent six glasses, executed by Venetians in Belgium in the seventeenth century; and specimens of Binche and Antwerp lace, the latter of the description called *Pottekant*, from the vase of flowers forming the central object in the design. The accompanying text gives full information as to the history of the objects and the technical method of manufacture.

W. H. James Weale.

CORRESPONDENCE.

"JACOB" AND "JOSEPH" IN THE INSCRIPTION OF THOTHMES III.

Paris: Oct. 11, 1887.

I notice in the last number of the Academy a discussion on the names of Jakob-El and Joseph-El in the lists of Thothmes III., at Karnac. As I not only made the first publication on this subject (*Rev. Egypt.* 1885), but have given it a great deal of careful study, perhaps a line from me in your journal would not be inappropriate.

The gentlemen do not appear to have read my second article (*Rev. Egypt.* iv., p. 146), wherein, I think, I definitely established the translation on which their controversy rests—namely, the title of the monument.

The word *tethu* never means to conquer (*bezwingen*), either in the ancient Egyptian or in Demotic, where it is often found; but always has the sense of "to shut up," "to imprison." The word *test* has two meanings—either territory or people (principality). We are here obliged to accept the ethnographical sense, as it would have been impossible for the king to have imprisoned the territories in the city of Megiddo. If they were cities (*test* never means city) taken by the king in his expedition against the "re-union of people," he would have said so, and we should have found mention of it in the history of the war.

There is, at present, absolutely no reason why Jakob-El and Joseph-El should not be tribes, and the two tribes which the Bible represents to us as the families of Jacob and Joseph.

William N. Groff.

THE AGE OF THE WALLS OF CHESTER.

London: Oct. 9, 1887.

I have to render reply to two of your correspondents—Mr. Thompson Watkin and Mr. Shrubsole—whose letters appear in the Academy of September 24. Mr. Shrubsole says I have fallen into "serious error." Let us see. I stated that the Roodeye wall is "of unknown thickness and depth." He states that a pig of lead was found at a depth of 22 ft., where there was deep water in Roman times. "Hardly the place one thinks," he says, "for the wall of a *castrum*." Who has said that where the pig of lead was found, *there* was the wall? Certainly not I. Where is my error, serious or otherwise? Where is there the least figment of error? The lead was found in one place, the wall is in another.

If Mr. Shrubsole is prepared to say that because a pig of lead is found in deep water, *ergo* there could not have been a wall on the bank of the stream, he is quite welcome to the argument. I am obliged to him for desiring to render me information as to this discovery; but the time I have devoted to Chester archaeology has already made me familiar with it, and with the following reference to its position in relation to the Roodeye wall in Mr. Frank H. Williams's *Synopsis*:

"The stratum in which it occurred—a bed of gravel and marl intermixed with shells—clearly indicates its having anciently been part of the course of the river Dee, which in the time of the Romans extended over a great part of the Roodeye, in some places reaching to the walls of their camp."

I am aware, also, of the curious fact that the sloping bank within the Roodeye wall is filled with early Roman tombs. Your correspondent will find the counterpart of this just within the late portion of the Roman wall of London, at Newgate, where, at Messrs. Tylor's foundry, Roman tombs of early date were not long since discovered. Other interments have also been found from time to time within the area of the London wall in other positions. These indicate that the walls in both cases were erected to inclose an area once outside the original settlement. I am glad that your correspondent now acknowledges the Roodeye wall to be an ancient wall. In his published paper, however, he described the stones forming it as "no part of a wall properly so-called. They are certainly not Roman, since they exist only as a single row of stones. . . . The base of the stones rests upon a quicksand." This statement was actually made subsequently to the first excavations which Mr. Watkin describes, when the wall was found to go down deeper than the depth of our recent diggings.

I need not trespass much upon your space to reply to Mr. Thompson Watkin's remarks, since Sir Henry Dryden's letter has gone so greatly over the same ground. For this reason I need not go farther into the question as to the age of the slab with the ecclesiastical-looking figure; and I am content that he should assign it to whatever age he deems best, so long as he allows me my opinion as to its Roman date. His suggestion that the huge mass of confessedly Roman sculptured and inscribed stones were brought from an ancient cemetery to repair the wall with after the siege deserves more attention. In one comparatively small gap we have now found something close upon forty stones, and there are others—who can say how many?—yet to be discovered. During the siege, were the combatants likely to have devoted much time to the unearthing of Roman stones from the spot where their battery was erected? Supposing that some were found, would the builders, after the siege was over, have been likely to cross the ditch to fetch these small stones, when, had stone been wanted to repair the walls, there were the suburbs lying in ruins closer at hand, as well, I fear, as many a goodly building, battered to pieces within the walls. Again, Chester was surrounded with cemeteries, most of which have been built over in modern times by the growth of the city, including even the one specially referred to. But yet, have the works of excavation all over their surfaces in recent years, when everyone is on the alert to see anything that may be met with, produced any such mass of sculptured and inscribed stones? Take the whole area of the cemeteries, take all recent years, and how meagre has been the sum of the discoveries! How, then, in this special cemetery, and in a time of great public trouble, could such a number have been found? The remarks made relative to old Roman foundations within the walls, I have replied to at some length in last week's *Builder*, and they need not, therefore, be repeated here. But is it actually a matter of fact that the walls on the north side and on the east were so much battered as is implied? Can Mr. Watkin produce any records that such was the case?

I am sorry to learn from your correspondent's letter that "the anti-Roman party" at the period of our visit "were, *by agreement*, silent." This appears to indicate some preconcerted plan, which is greatly to be regretted. We were desirous of arriving at the truth; and all the points now being discussed on paper could have been so much more readily pointed out and considered on the spot, frankly, one with the other. I believe the "anti-Roman" party to be a very small minority, and I trust that the reward of this correspondence will be to adduce so much evidence as to make it easy for them to come over to the majority.

E. P. Loftus Brock.

P.S.—It may be of interest to Sir Henry Dryden to know that a vast quantity of fragments of Roman pottery were found in the excavations.

THE ROMAN PATERA FOUND AT SOUTH SHIELDS.

South Shields: Oct. 10, 1887.

I have read Mr. Hoskyns-Abrahall's letter concerning the Roman patera from South Shields, and his suggested reading of it. Since my letter appeared—but too late for insertion in last week's issue of the Academy—Prof. Hübner thus writes me: "Looking again at the text of the inscription, I find that one may read also *Apollini Anextiomaro M. A. Sab(inus)*." Thus it will be seen that in his alternative reading he agrees with Mr. Hoskyns-Abrahall.

Robert Blair.

NOTES ON ART AND ARCHAEOLOGY.

By the appointment of Mr. M. H. Spielmann to the post of editor of the *Magazine of Art*, that very popular publication promises to be again conducted with the energy and spiritedness which characterised it of old. Mr. Spielmann assumes command in time for the issue of the December number.

Miss Amelia B. Edwards is announced to deliver a lecture on "The Buried Cities of Ancient Egypt," at the Town Hall, Manchester, on November 2; and on "The Social and Political Position of Woman in Ancient Egypt," at the room of the Fine Arts Club, Alderley Edge, on November 8. Miss Edwards will also lecture at Warrington and other places in the neighbourhood of Manchester.

A new edition of the late Mrs. Heaton's *Concise History of Painting*, revised and enlarged by Mr. W. Cosmo Monkhouse, will shortly be published by Messrs. Bell as a volume in "Bohn's Standard Library."

Mr. Aubrey Hunt's exhibition, chiefly, if not entirely, of pictures and sketches in France, will be one of the first to which Messrs. Boussod Valadon and Company will invite the public at the Goupil Gallery this winter. Mr. Hunt has but lately returned from the scene of his summer's labours.

Mr. Harry Furniss will hold, next week, in the Gainsborough Gallery, New Bond Street, a second exhibition of his work, consisting, this time, of his original drawings for *Punch*, &c., and entitled "Politics and Society." Next week, also, the Fine Art Society will exhibit a collection of drawings by Mr. George Q. P. Talbot, entitled "The Sunny South."

The tenth annual exhibition of the Scottish Society of Painters in Water-Colours will open at Glasgow, in the galleries of the Institute, Sauchiehall Street, towards the end of next week.

A General Meeting of the Hellenic Society (the first of the ensuing session) will be held at 22 Albemarle Street, on Thursday, Oct. 20, at 5 p.m. Prof. Percy Gardner will take the chair; and a paper will be read by Mr. A. S. Murray, upon "Two Vases from Cyprus."

Mr. Walter Armstrong's work on the new English edition of M. Müntz's *Life of Raphael*, has, he informs us, been confined to editing the translation published some years ago, and incorporating with it the corrections and new matter contained in the second French edition.

THE STAGE.

STAGE NOTES.

The theatrical season "makes haste slowly." There is a curious absence of pieces—long pieces at all events—of any importance. It is true we may have to go to see the "Red Lamp" again very soon: partly to see the "Red Lamp" itself again and the excellence of its first interpreters; partly to see Mrs. Beerbohm, free for the first time in a very strong part, played last season by Lady Monckton, and lately by Miss Achurch; and partly, too, for the sake of the one-act piece, by Mr. Walter Besant and Mr. Walter Pollock, to which the manager has paid the reasonable compliment of removing it once a week, at least, from its place, as mere *lever de rideau*, and giving it at an hour when even the least diligent playgoer is in his seat. That would be an evening not badly spent, probably.

But attendance at the Gaiety and the Strand—two playhouses where new things are, or old things essentially, perhaps, under new names—we should surmise, is hardly compulsory. But the doings there may have a word of chronicle, nevertheless, since at the Strand it is Cellier's opera, "The Sultan of Mocha," which they are giving, with Miss Violet Cameron, Mr. Bracy, and Mr. Birch in the cast; while at the Gaiety, Mr. Leslie, the comedian, it is said, under the name of A. C. Torr, collaborates with another in the production of a characteristic burlesque. But though Mr. Leslie, the author, may be present, Mr. Leslie, the comedian, is elsewhere, It is Mr. Leslie, the comedian—from "Rip van Winkle" to "Monte Christo"—whom we are sure of enjoying. Miss Farren, too, who still permits so much of piquancy to Gaiety burlesque, whom years cannot wither, nor can custom stale her pleasing monotony — Miss Farren, alas! is absent. Still, our contemporaries—those most learned in the matter—assert the piece to be all that a Gaiety audience can demand: brilliant as to spectacle, tuneful as to music, and even rather funny as to dialogue.

But it is for M. Coquelin that the playgoer is really waiting. He makes his first appearance, on Monday week, at the little band-box in Soho, which M. Mayer—never hitting the golden mean in these matters—gets as a somewhat absurd alternative to the vastness of Her Majesty's Theatre. "L'Aîné"—M. Coquelin's special piece—will not be performed till two or three days afterwards. And the comedian will not leave us till he has played "Don Caesar de Basan," "Les Précieuses Ridicules," "Grin-goire," and, more than that, has played, within half a mile of Mr. Irving's own theatre, Mr. Irving's own part in "The Bells."

MUSIC.

THE NORWICH FESTIVAL.

Norwich, Oct. 12.

The twenty-second Triennial Festival, which commenced in St. Andrew's Hall on Tuesday evening, promises to be one of considerable interest. Mr. A. C. Mackenzie, who obtained such success three years ago with his "Rose of Sharon," is represented only by his Jubilee Ode, and a song from "The Story of Sayid." Sir A. Sullivan's "Golden Legend" is, of course, almost a necessity. But musicians will be anxious to hear about the novelties. From Germany has come many a masterpiece; from France we have had "Faust" and "The Redemption"; and now the Festival authorities have determined to see if anything good can come out of Italy, once the land, *par excellence*, of music, and especially of sacred music. Whatever may be thought of the new works they cannot fail to excite a certain legitimate curiosity.

The programme of the opening concert began with the above-mentioned Jubilee Ode. Due justice was done to this skilful *pièce d'occasion* by Mdme. Albani, Mr. E. Lloyd, choir and orchestra under Mr. Randegger's direction.

This was followed by M. Camille Saint-Saëns' clever though curious setting of the Nineteenth Psalm. The strange mixture of old and new styles is disturbing. The principal vocalists were Miss A. Marriott, Miss L. Lehmann, and Messrs. B. McGuckin and Barrington Foote. Miss Lehmann obtained well-deserved applause for her solo, "Thou, O Lord."

The concert concluded with Mendelssohn's "Hymn of Praise," with Mdme. Albani, Miss L. Lehmann and Lloyd in the solo parts. The chorus, "Praise thou the Lord," and the famous "Night is departing," gave one an excellent idea of the powers of the festival choir. The voices are fairly well balanced. Those of the men preponderate slightly. The quality of tone is good, if not particularly rich. Hence they are more successful in passages requiring loud and vigorous singing. Their rendering of these choruses deserves high praise.

On Wednesday morning was produced Signor Bottesini's oratorio, "The Garden of Olivet." The solemn tragedy of Gethsemane is treated briefly in Bach's "Passion" music; and it forms the subject of Beethoven's single oratorio. The one only gave us the Biblical narrative in recitative; while the other, with the exception of a few numbers, did not approach his subject with sufficient seriousness and sympathy. Both Mr. J. Bennett, who prepared the book, and also the composer have evidently been anxious to deal reverently with their theme. The Scripture narrative is given in recitative, and entrusted to a contralto voice. The actual words of Jesus are treated more elaborately, and sung by a baritone. The narrative is interspersed with solos, duets, quartets, and choruses of a reflective nature. The work has been appropriately described as a "sermon set to music." From a purely art point of view a more dramatic—using the word in a technical sense—form would, perhaps, have been more satisfactory; but, considering the great danger of giving offence to susceptible minds, it was a wise course. Moreover, the work is entitled a "devotional" oratorio. The book is carefully and skilfully constructed, as one would indeed naturally expect from so experienced a writer as Mr. Bennett.

Signor Bottesini is known in England as a double-bass player, and as a composer of solos specially written to show his wonderful command over that unwieldly instrument. In the "Garden of Olivet," however, we find something very different. It cannot be denied that the music of the oratorio shows us a man who has studied and has been influenced by all sorts of composers. Had Signor Bottesini absorbed into his system the teachings of various schools, and then evolved a well-defined style of his own, all would be well. But a recitative, *à la* Wagner, followed by a concerted piece in Italian style, and a phrase here of Rossini or Donizetti, there of Mendelssohn or Gounod, produce a somewhat patchy effect. The frankness, however, with which the composer yields to any particular mood is refreshing. The *leit-motif* enters largely into the work, and is employed with skill. The second section "Betrayal," contains, in our opinion, the best music. The contralto solo, "Deliver me," the aria for soprano, "The Lord is my light," and a pleasing duet in canon form for soprano and tenor, "I, the Lord," are, to our mind, the numbers most deserving of mention. There are some good passages in the choral numbers; but, altogether, the music is of too light a character for the words. The story of Gethsemane is so touching, so solemn, and to most so sacred, that anything which recalls operatic music carries with it its own condemnation. The scoring of the work is effective in many of the accompaniments to the portions for baritone. But the introduction of the brass in the Intermezzo, descriptive of the angel from heaven strengthening Jesus in the hour of agony, is particularly unsuitable and distressing. Besides, too frequent use of the brass in the choral numbers fatigues the ear. Signor Bottesini, who conducted his own work, by no means adhered to the metronome marks in the vocal score. The "Marcia" movement at the beginning of the second part was not improved by the rate at which it was taken.

With regard to the performance, we need only say that the choir sang well, but not its best. The solo parts were in the safe hands of Miss A. Marriott, Miss H. Wilson, Messrs. Lloyd and Santley and Mr. J. H. Brockbank. The hall was fairly well filled, but the oratorio was coldly received. Choir and orchestra, however, bestowed considerable applause on the composer.

The morning concert concluded with Dvorák's beautiful "Stabat Mater." In the grand opening number for quartet and chorus the choir did, with one or two small exceptions, exceedingly well. Concerning the vocalists the names must suffice—Miss A. Marriott, Miss Wilson, and Messrs. Lloyd and Santley.

We are compelled to defer until next week our notice of the rest of the week's music. This evening's programme includes a new song by M. Gounod for Mr. E. Lloyd, and a new scena by Mr. Prout for Miss Hilda Wilson. To-morrow morning Signor Mancinelli's cantata, "Isaiah," will be performed. From reading the vocal score and rehearsal, we venture to say that it is a work of considerable power; though how far the composer has employed his talents in a right direction may be a matter for discussion.

J. S. Shedlock.

MR. PROUT'S NEW DRAMATIC CANTATA.

Mr. E. Prout and Mr. W. Grist have once more entered into partnership, and have illustrated another story from early English history. From the times of King Alfred and the Saxon hero, Hereward, they have passed on to the period of the Crusades. The tale of the new Cantata, briefly told, is as follows:—The winner in a three days' tournament is to obtain the castle and lands of Whittington, together with their heiress, Lady Edith. Lord Morice, a partisan of Prince John the Regent, has jousted victoriously for two days; but on the third he is defeated by Roland, a Red Cross Knight, who loves, and is beloved by, the fair lady. The Lord Morice seeks, by treachery, to rid himself of his rival. Roland, left for dead, revives by the aid of King Richard, who, with his minstrel Blondel, has returned from the East. Then all ends happily. Edith and Roland are united, and the return of England's truant king is welcomed by all. For the main outline of his plot, the librettist acknowledges that he is indebted to the "Knight of the Silver Shield," a story in H. Neele's *Romance of History*. The tale is extremely well laid out for musical purposes, and Mr. Prout has coloured it with some of his best music.

The "Red Cross Knight" is decidedly an advance on the composer's earlier Cantatas. There is more power of characterisation, a richer

vein of melody, and a freer handling of the chorus. Mr. Prout has not, however, changed his style. The music is straightforward, and for the most part, diatonic, and bears but few traces of effort. Much study and labour are needed to apprehend the meaning of some works—the form may be difficult, the phraseology puzzling. And there is a tendency in these days to value a work in proportion to the effort which it gives us to understand it. This is sometimes a mistake, but it is no less wrong to think lightly of music which makes a direct appeal. With Mr. Prout a simple style is a matter of choice, and not of necessity. He is a musician of recognised ability, and, if he willed, could fill his scores with Wagnerian devices and highly-spiced harmonies. He does not ignore the system of representative themes—the king, the knight, and the lady have each a musical phrase assigned to them; and these are used with skill, yet with moderation. As an example of skill we would note the development of a Roland love-theme, in the fourth and fifth scenes. While admiring Mr. Prout for his courage in following Handel and Haydn rather than Schumann or Wagner in the matter of harmony, we are pleased when he introduces a bit of modern colour, and this he does on several occasions. There is one thing in the Cantata to which we would take exception. The musical thread is often rudely snapped asunder by those fatal cadence-chords which are the weak and not the strong points of many a master-piece of the eighteenth century. Mr. Prout knows well the practice of modern writers to avoid breaks, and has followed it successfully in some places. In the matter of orchestration the composer has displayed his usual mastery. In his delicate treatment of wood-wind and brass he often reminds us of Schubert. Space will not allow us to speak in detail of the various numbers of the work; but we would single out for special praise the bright chorus, "Welcome tidings;" the bold "Tournament" chorus—"Hark to achievement"; and the quiet tenor recitative and air at the opening of Scene 4. There is also a very graceful chorus for female voices, "Gaily the Herald."

The "Red Cross Knight" was specially written for the Huddersfield Choral Society, and was produced, under the direction of the composer, at their first concert of the present season, on Friday evening, October 7. The hall was crowded, and the work was enthusiastically received. Attempts were made to encore many numbers, but Mr. Prout only yielded in one instance. This was after the bright chorus, "Welcome tidings." The Huddersfield choir sang this (and indeed all the choruses) superbly; and it was natural that the composer should, for once, give way. The soprano music was sung with considerable power by Miss Annie Marriott; and Mr. E. Lloyd, as the knight, captivated, not only the Lady Edith, but the whole of his audience. Miss Hilda Wilson and Mr. Watkin Mills were very good, but Mr. Riley found the "Morice" music somewhat beyond his strength. Applause, calls for composer, and chorus-master (Mr. J. North), and a speech of thanks from Mr. Prout to the choir for their admirable singing, brought the evening to a highly satisfactory conclusion.

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